

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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Vol VI No 052

16 March 1983

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EL TIEMPO CARRIES CARTAGENA SUMMIT TEXT

PA140041 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Feb 83 pp 1-a, 6-a

["Official text" of declaration issued by foreign and economy ministers of Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Uruguay and Venezuela on 26 February in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia]

[Text] Cartagena, 26 Feb -- The Latin American foreign and economy ministers, invited by the Colombian president and as stipulated in decision 122 of the Latin American Economic System Council, gathered in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 25 and 26 February 1983, in order to coordinate their countries' position for the meeting of the 77 to be held in Buenos Aires in preparation for the sixth UNCTAD meeting. They have decided to state the following:

Declaration

1: On examining the international economic situation, the ministers point out the disastrous consequences of the international economic crisis on the developing countries and particularly on the countries of Latin America, whose economies have been their growth and development paralyzed and show unmistakable signs of recession that amplify the magnitude of the differences and injustices of the current international economic order.

The ministers also point out that such a situation is in no way due to an intrinsic lack of vitality on the part of the developing countries' economies that, until recently, served to moderate the global impact of the crisis, especially with the dynamism of their markets on the world economy.

2: The ministers emphasize that in order to resolve the current crisis, specific and concerted measures formulated with the participation of all the developing countries and in accordance with the new realities characterizing them are called for.

3: The economic crisis affecting all countries is rooted in the international economic structure as well as in the developed countries' policies. The drop in world trade for 2 consecutive years, the collapse of prices for basic products and the resulting worsening of the developed countries' exchange terms, the increase in unemployment, the persistent inflation, the each day more onerous foreign debt burden and the lack of a structural adjustment of the developed countries are seriously involving the legitimate expectations of development and welfare of the Latin American and other developing countries. Although time factors are involved, the nature of the crisis is essentially structural and has more seriously affected the less advanced countries, the island countries and countries without a coast.

4. The developing countries are not responsible for the crisis. The ministers observed with deep concern that, aside from the differences and injustices that drop an excessive load of the global adjustment burden on the developing countries, the crisis is also manifested in the rapid erosion of principles, norms and institutions that have served as a framework for international economic relations. This shows the need for its revision, modernization and strengthening, as applicable. This situation is getting worse because of an increase in protectionism by the developed countries of their own and third markets and also because of the implementation of unilateral decisions that affect trade and international financial relations. Also, the arbitrariness and lack of stability in international relations is accentuated by the implementation, by some of these countries, of coercive and discriminatory economic measures with political purposes that make the developing countries' situation even more difficult.

5. In the current critical situation, the adoption by the developed countries of domestic policies and measures without taking due account of their effects on the international economy, particularly on the economies of the developing countries, helps accentuate the alarming trend toward international disorder and, in some cases, to reinforce the concentration of world decisionmaking power in the developed countries. The political and economic consequences reflected in the crisis require concerted action in which the developed countries avoid taking unilateral actions that result in other unilateral actions on the part of the affected countries.

6. The difficulties and obstacles that some of the most powerful developed countries have placed in the way of global negotiations and the establishment of a new international economic order have helped accentuate the negative international economic picture. This type of situation could be avoided, or confronted in a more favorable manner, if the structural measures demanded by the developing countries were accepted.

7. Realizing that if the current situation persists, not only will the developmental objectives and possibilities of their countries be endangered, but there will also be serious aggravation of the tensions that affect international political stability, the ministers declare that the crisis cannot be overcome by the adoption of isolated unilateral measures. In the primary spheres of the world economy, the international community must agree on a number of interrelated actions designed to bring about a speedy reactivation and recovery of the economy in the short term, actions which, on being effectively applied, will contribute to the basic objective of restructuring the international economic order. This requires political determination by all countries, developed as well as developing, to facilitate achievement of the necessary agreements. The sixth UNCTAD meeting, to be held in the midst of this serious crisis, will offer the best opportunity for this political determination to lead to effective decisions.

8. The ministers reiterate their firm determination to participate actively in the search for solutions that will make possible an overview of the structural changes that the international economic system requires. For this reason, they state that the sixth UNCTAD meeting, in view of the obvious deterioration of the world economic situation, must take actions directed toward joint and urgent resolution of the problems involved in an in-depth reorganization of the international economy. The sixth UNCTAD meeting will permit an overall handling of the commercial, economic and financial problems that are closely interrelated. The separation of these problems is the cause of the limited results obtained by the various multilateral forums that have attempted to resolve these problems individually.

9. In this sense, the ministers agree to suggest, at the ministerial meeting of the group of the 77 to be held in Buenos Aires, several initiatives that will contribute to the adoption of a series of immediate measures aimed at urgently changing the present state of things, in the context of an in-depth revision of the current multilateral structures.

At the same time, they state the need to evaluate the results of the sixth UNCTAD meeting at the ninth regular meeting of the SELA Council and, following these, to agree on political measures that may be considered necessary.

10. The ministers reaffirm that economic cooperation among developing countries is a key and indispensable instrument in the reorganization of international economic relations, and point out the importance that group self-sufficiency has under the present circumstances as a factor in the reactivation of the world economy. In that sense, they point out the need for the ministerial meeting of the group of the 77 that will be held in Buenos Aires to contribute to the strengthening of the objectives and operational measures that the developing countries have planned for themselves. This cooperation must also contribute to strengthening the position of the developing countries in the framework of North-South relations, without limiting in any way the political responsibilities of the developed countries in the common effort.

At the Latin American level, strengthening regional economic security under the terms established by decision 113 of the SELA Council will permit the countries of the region to reduce their dependency on and vulnerability to outside factors through an expansion of commercial exchange and an increase in the efforts of economic integration and cooperation in such areas as foreign financing, insurance, reinsurance, transportation, technology and foodstuffs, based on the enormous potential and immense resources of the region.

11. Faithful to its historical tradition and aware of the needs of the moment, the ministers realize the responsibility of Latin America in the process of harmonizing the positions of the developing countries during the next ministerial meeting in Buenos Aires, for the negotiation and agreement that the group of the 77 is trying to establish at the sixth UNCTAD meeting in Belgrade with all the developed countries.

12. Finally, the ministers reiterate their political will to attend the sixth UNCTAD meeting with a constructive attitude, and they hope that a similar attitude is held by the developed countries. Only in this way can we have the conditions necessary to implement decisions that will meet the seriousness of the crisis; and, in this respect, the ministers appeal to the spirit of responsibility of all the governments, inviting them not to let this opportunity pass to reorient economic activity toward objectives of growth and development, thus insuring the proper conditions for peace and international stability, and for the welfare of all nations.

BRIEFS

NEW CELAM OFFICIALS -- Vatican City, 14 Mar (EFE) -- Msgr Antonio Quarracino from Argentina has been elected president of the Latin American Episcopal Council, CELAM. The new first vice president of the organization is Msgr Felipe Santiago Benitez Avalos of Paraguay. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 2151 GMT 14 Mar 83 PA]

2 APRIL HOLIDAY TO MARK RECOVERY OF FALKLANDS

PY151448 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1232 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Mar (DYN) -- The national government has declared 2 April a national holiday to commemorate the day on which the Malvinas Islands were recovered for national sovereignty in 1982, reliable sources have stated.

The celebrations of this national holiday will be transferred -- this year alone -- to 4 April because 2 April falls on Holy Saturday.

FISHERMEN CONCERNED OVER AGREEMENT WITH USSR

PY151818 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1240 GMT 12 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Mar (NA) -- Rear Adm Ciro Garcia, secretary for maritime affairs, has explained to a group of fishing industry businessmen that Argentina discussed only maritime transport aspects with the Soviet trade mission. Garcia added that fishing affairs were discussed only in passing.

The businessmen had conveyed to the official their concern over the possible implementation of the protocol of understanding on fishing which Argentina signed with the Soviet Union in 1980.

Admiral Garcia told his interlocutors that this protocol merely gives priority to the exploitation of krill through mixed enterprises. The maritime affairs secretary added that "this pact has clauses which specifically indicate that the produce of these joint enterprises must be marketed in the host country, therefore there is no way these joint enterprises can compete on the international market with those already operating in Argentina."

Record Wheat Cargo Shipped

PY160134 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2240 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 15 Mar (DYN) -- The largest cargo of wheat to be carried by a vessel from Argentine ports left Bahia Blanca today for the Soviet Union. At the same time, the export of grains from the deepsea ports of southern Argentina have increased notably.

The Liberian vessel 'Rebeca' departed today for the USSR with 58,000 tons of wheat in its hold. This is a record cargo for one single vessel and it has been accomplished thanks to the increase in the depth of the water surrounding the docks, which is the result of the dredging that has been carried out during the past few months.

Moreover, business circles "have estimated that more than 1.5 million tons of wheat have been exported from here during the course of this year."

All loading points are occupied and approximately 20 vessels are waiting in the roads. The unloading of trucks and train convoys at the elevators has been increased to maximum output throughout the port.

BIGNONE'S ACTIVITIES AT NONALIGNED SUMMIT

For reportage on Argentine President Reynaldo Bignone's activities and speech at the Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference in New Delhi, see the Nonaligned Conference section of the 11 March South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Israel Voices 'Concern'

PY151459 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1433 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Mar (NA) -- Israeli Ambassador Dov Schmorak today conveyed to Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari his government's "concern" about President Reynaldo Bignone's remarks at the Nonaligned Summit.

Schmorak expressed "concern" about "some parts of Bignone's speech." He said: "I am not lodging a protest because this would be out of keeping with the substantive, comprehensive Argentine-Israeli relations."

Regarding Bignone's greeting PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, the diplomat said: "Regarding this matter we feel as the Argentines would feel if the Israeli president shook hands with Mr Firmenich." [Montonero leader]

Aguirre Lanari Interview

PY151548 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Undated interview with Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari -- recorded; place not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] You implement the foreign policy that is established by the government. Lately, there has been so much talk about changes in foreign policy and so forth. Are these changes in keeping with the traditional foreign policy that Argentina has always upheld?

[Answer] Yes, undoubtedly. I am really surprised that there has been so much talk about radical changes in Argentine foreign policy. Yesterday, the president denied that there had been any changes in our foreign policy.

But, gentlemen, I believe that all of us must ask ourselves one thing. What changes have been made, what new position has Argentina adopted regarding international issues?

As the president has said, the only new event is that the president has attended a meeting of heads of state of the Nonaligned Movement. Moreover, his presence was necessary since we either are a member of the movement or we are not. On this issue we must speak clearly and be in agreement. What we must ask ourselves is whether we want to continue struggling for the Malvinas; whether we want to honor our dead; whether we are decided in carrying out this struggle; or whether we are going to stay behind our desks giving up our rights and declining to make any effort while our soldiers fought and gave their lives on the islands. I wonder if the Argentine people are aware of the tremendous effort that Great Britain is carrying out with all its power? Are the people aware that right now Great Britain has invited journalists from all over the world to visit the Malvinas so that they will write reports on the Malvinas on 2 April? Are the people aware that we are up against an empire against which in the past we fought with our arms and against which today we are still fighting with all our might? Do the Argentine people want the Malvinas or do we want to destroy ourselves? These are the questions I have for the Argentine people.

[Question] But there are those who wonder if we have negotiated away -- if we can use this term -- many things that were not in the plans since this happens in any international negotiation.

[Answer] We did not negotiate away anything that was not in our plans. We attended this meeting with the purpose of achieving a goal and we fully achieved this objective. The paragraphs regarding the Malvinas are completely clear and this means that our rights have been reasserted.

I understand that many Argentines do not agree with the idea of our country being a member of the Nonaligned Movement. But we have to be sincere with ourselves; we either are within the movement or we are not. In my capacity as foreign minister I will never assume the responsibility of taking my country out of the Nonaligned Movement because this would mean that we would lack any active and valid support from the diplomatic (representation) which is in my hands.

[Technical difficulties at station interrupt program -- in progress] Castro and Cuba have categorically supported Argentina's position regarding the Malvinas issue. Therefore, the president only did the proper thing. He thanked him for his support. But Castro himself and the Argentine president clearly stated that we have completely different political and ideological views. Therefore, since there were no hidden motives, there is no reason for us to be ashamed of this or for giving a report. We simply thanked someone who expressed his support for an Argentine cause.

[Question] How about the meeting with 'Arafat?

[Answer] It was a circumstantial meeting. The meeting took place in a room where all the presidents and ministers stayed. So this meeting was unavoidable, but there was nothing significant about it. I believe that no one can doubt what the president's position is in this regard since we undoubtedly upheld different positions for well-known reasons. People should not grant importance to this meeting. There was no hidden agenda, no hidden commitments were made; 'Arafat made no demands. It was simply a circumstantial meeting.

[Question] Many people wondered how the president and you would be welcomed in Buenos Aires, for example, by the military junta. Did something happen?

[Answer] Well, I have no contact with the military junta. But I believe nothing happened.

JUSTICIALIST, SOCIALIST LEADERS LEAVE FOR RIO

PY151403 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 14 Mar 83 p 10

[Text] Argentine Socialist Party leader Guillermo Estevez Boero and Justicialist Party leaders Miguel Unamuno and Hector Lopez will leave today for Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) at the invitation of Governor-Elect Leonel Brizola to attend the ceremony marking his assumption of the office of state governor.

Miguel Unamuno, former labor minister and leader of the Movement for Unity, Solidarity and Organization (Movimiento Unidad, Solidaridad and Organizacion -- MUSO) of the Justicialist party, will take special greetings to Brizola from Deolindo Bittel and Antonio Cafiero.

WEHBE ON NEW TRADE SECRETARY, REFORM PACKAGE

PY151816 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1541 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 15 Mar (DYN) -- Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe today swore in Alberto Noguera as trade secretary. He also said that he will announce the new economic package on either Thursday or Friday and that the measures will not be "either arbitrary or exceptional."

Interview in CLARIN

PY110257 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 4 Mar 83 pp 10, 11, 52

[Undated interview with Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe in Buenos Aires; words in all capitals denote boldface as published]

[Excerpts] [Question] You said yesterday or the day before yesterday that if businessmen continue to increase prices you are going to order an increase in the interest rates, that they are going to force you to increase them. Are you not afraid that in the very fluid current political and economic context your attitude is going to be interpreted as a reinforcement of monetary policy guidelines implemented by those who preceded you? Do you believe that by increasing interest rates you can stop inflation...?

[Answer] No, no, no, just a minute. That is not the way it is...

I am not worried about people saying maliciously that I continue with this or that policy. The main thing is that we have a completely different exchange policy. There were two elements here which played a role in the... Well, I do not want to use a very harsh word, let us say DIFFICULTIES affecting businessmen, on one hand the exchange policy promoting imports and discouraging exports, on the other hand, the interest rate policy. I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO COMPLETELY RECTIFY THE EXCHANGE POLICY, a measure which I believe no one can criticize.

Now comes the other problem. You ask me if I believe that the interest rate can reduce inflation: NO, ON THE CONTRARY. But the businessmen who are crying out for a reduction of interest rates must keep in mind the monetary effect of people withdrawing their deposits and turning to the dollar, unless adequate interest covering inflation is paid. BUSINESSMEN CANNOT CLAIM TO INCREASE PRICES AS MUCH AS THEY WANT AND AT THE SAME TIME EXPECT PEOPLE TO CONTINUE DEPOSITING THEIR SAVINGS AND SEE THEM DETERIORATE EVERY DAY. JUST AS BUSINESSMEN WANT TO PROTECT THEIR PRICES, SAVERS ALSO WANT TO MAINTAIN THE VALUE OF THEIR MONEY. What is then the appropriate solution? That the state subsidize a sector? The result of this would be a tremendous monetary expansion followed by inevitable inflation, so this is not possible. INTEREST RATES MUST NECESSARILY BE IN LINE WITH INFLATION.

[Question] Do you not believe that this interest rate-dollar relation, which has established itself and which it has not been possible to break, is being reinforced through the current monetary policies, with the Central Bank fixing interest rates of 10 or 11 percent on 30-day loans and double that interest rate on 7 to 29-day loans, and maintaining a free market with very high interest levels?

[Answer] Well, the reason for the adjustments of short-term interest rates was that A PARALLEL FINANCIAL MARKET WAS CREATED AMONG COMPANIES FORMED FOR SHORT-TERM OPERATIONS AT A MUCH HIGHER INTEREST RATE. This money was escaping from the banking system. In addition to that, when the treasury bonds were eliminated all that money began to flow into this parallel market. The adjustment of the very short-term rates is aimed at making money flow back to its normal course within the banking system.

[Question] DO YOU NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS INTENSIFIES FINANCIAL STRUGGLE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT INSTEAD OF DISCOURAGING THEM? A MEASURE HAS BEEN TAKEN WHICH, INSTEAD OF RESOLVING THE PROBLEM BY REMOVING IT FROM THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT CREATED IT, ATTACKS IT WITH THE SAME MEANS THAT WERE ITS ORIGIN. YOU ATTACK A HIGH INTEREST RATE IN MARGINAL OPERATIONS WITH ANOTHER STILL HIGHER INTEREST RATE, THUS REINFORCING THE CYCLE OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY.

[Answer] Higher than the prior rate but lower than the...

[Question] But, do you not believe that it encourages financial competition?

[Answer] Let us hope not. Because the problem does not only involve a competition between different ways of yielding profits but also the reliability of the system. The reliability of the banking system and the guarantees it undoubtedly offers can justify the preference for this system over the other, because the parallel market cannot offer the same guarantees as the banking system.

[Question] Going back to the subject of uncertainty, has the idea been discarded to call together the management and labor organizations to seek an agreement?

[Answer] We are studying it.

[Question] Do you believe an agreement can still be reached...?

[Answer] What I want is a solution of the inflationary problem THROUGH ANY METHOD. No method has been discarded if it brings solutions. What I want is to resolve the problem. I AM NOT TIED TO ANY METHOD.

[Question] At the conclusion of a cabinet meeting last month you were asked about the labor-management agreement and you answered that this was indeed an idea. You were also asked if there was a possibility of applying maximum prices for about 20 products. You said on that occasion that this idea was related to the labor-management agreement, without saying yes or not...in fact, WOULD YOU APPLY MAXIMUM PRICES?

[Answer] IF WE HAVE TO RESORT TO MAXIMUM PRICES, WE WILL NOT HESITATE IN IMPLEMENTING THEM. If we have to resort to CONTROLS we are also not going to hesitate. Although you may believe that controls create distortions, they lead to natural selection in the reverse. Because what happens is that THE BEST BUSINESSMEN, THOSE WHO OBEY THE RULES, ARE FORCED OUT OF THE MARKET AND THOSE WHO ARE WILLING TO CHALLENGE THEM, no matter how harsh the penalties, ARE THE ONES WHO SURVIVE.

[Question] Whatever the price policies finally adopted, is the salary cost going to be included?

[Answer] We have already said that we are now preparing the publication of the commitment with the IMF as part of the guidelines we are going to announce. That publication clearly states that we want an improvement of the real salary of all sectors. This is obvious, because IF THE REAL SALARY DOES NOT INCREASE AND DOMESTIC DEMAND DOES NOT INCREASE, THERE IS NO POSSIBLE REACTIVATION. This is no longer a problem of good intentions.

[Question] Continuing with the subject, is it true that the letter of intent of the IMF contains a clause establishing that the cost of public services must be adjusted at the rate of 2 or 3 percent above the monthly variation of prices and that the price of fuels must be increased by 50 percent in real terms this year?

[Answer] The first one no. Regarding fuels, it is one of our basic objectives. It is not only A PROBLEM OF PRICES but also A PROBLEM OF WASTE.

50,000 EVACUATED FROM FLOODED PROVINCES

PY152246 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1715 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 15 Mar (TELAM) -- Rear Adm Salvio Olegario Menendez, head of the Argentine Naval Prefecture, stated today that his security organization along with the civil defense organization evacuated some 50,000 persons affected by the floods in the national Mesopotamia.

He also disclosed that in the Alto Parana-Misiones area -- where the Prefecture evacuated 3,189 persons and other organizations evacuated 6,500 -- the floods had reached their peak level but that for the time being the river water level is stationary.

Rear Adm Menendez pointed out that according to the Prefecture experts the water level of the Parana River rises naturally and is not due to the Itaipu dam. He also pointed out that there was a worse flood at the beginning of the 20th century and that the Itaipu dam did not exist then.

Menendez stated that the problem is caused by the very heavy rainfalls throughout the country, and the land is unable to absorb the water fast enough thus creating floods.

He ended by pointing out that the health of the evacuated persons is good and that a great number of lives were saved thanks to the action of various organizations.

Emergency Funds Allocated

PY142040 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Report from Government House]

[Text] The interior minister had ordered the allocation of 1.3 trillion pesos from the Interior Ministry's emergency funds to the provinces affected by the floods.

The following provinces will receive 200 billion pesos each: Misiones, Santa Fe, Corrientes, Formosa, Entre Rios and Chaco.

The 1.3 trillion-pesos figure includes the amount of 100 billion pesos previously allocated to Chaco Province.

PAZ ZAMORA CANCELS TRIP TO RIO, CARACAS

PY151348 Paris AFP in Spanish 0225 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] La Paz, 14 Mar (AFP) -- Spokesmen for Bolivian Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora today reported that he has cancelled the visits he planned to make to Rio de Janeiro to attend the inauguration of Governor Leonel Brizola and to Caracas where he was due to participate in the sessions of the Andean Parliament. The cancellation has been prompted by the economic and political crisis besieging Bolivia.

Paz Zamora is currently engaged in preparing his agenda for next week when he will have to take over as acting president of the nation in view of President Hernan Siles Zuazo's coming trip to Peru, France and Spain.

CONGRESS EXTENDS LEGISLATIVE PERIOD 30 DAYS

PY151358 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Congressional activities will be extended by 30 more days as of tomorrow. This decision was reached at the 5th congressional session, attended by all the representatives of the various parties. In a debate lasting only 7 minutes the parliamentarians decided to extend to 120 days the legislative period that opened on 10 October 1982.

PCB MEMBERS OUST MIR GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL

PY160258 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Mar 83

[Report from Trinidad]

[Text] This is a report for Panamericana from Trinidad. Dr (Guillermo Reyes Prieto), regional internal revenue director, has told me that members of the Bolivian Communist Party [PCB] ousted the internal revenue director of (Riberalta) District some days ago. Dr (Reyes Prieto) stated that he has also reported this incident to the internal revenue headquarters in La Paz.

The PCB members stated that the internal revenue premises belonged to them because (Riberalta's) internal revenue director belonged to the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left], a party that no longer forms part of the government [as heard].

PRESS STRIKE POSTPONED UNTIL 22, 23 MAR

PY160253 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2330 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] The 48-hour strike called by the press workers for tomorrow and the day after tomorrow has been postponed until next week. The strike was called to demand that ANP [National Press Association] comply with the arbitration decision ordering the payment of a bonus equivalent to two and a half wages in compensation for the increase in the cost of living.

The strike was postponed at first because the COB [Bolivian Labor Federation], supporting that sector, has given ANP and Asbora 5 days to comply with the arbitration decision and, secondly, because the Press Workers' Federation wants to keep the public informed on the economic measures to be approved by the government [words indistinct] direct negotiations have begun with the businessmen.

The Press Workers' Federation, which maintains and reiterates its decision to contribute to consolidating and strengthening the democratic process, hereby reports that the strike that was to begin tomorrow has been postponed until Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 March [words indistinct].

COMMANDER DISCUSSES DEPOLITIZATION OF ARMY

PY160046 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 6 Mar 83 p 10

[Excerpts] Army Commander Gen Simon Sejas Tordoya has told PRESENCIA that there are no secret clubs, political groups or parties in the Army.

The Army commander was asked about rumors of the existence of a so-called "Generation Movement" [Movimiento Generacional] within the Army, and of other groups who are likeminded with servicemen who held government positions. He was also asked about the publication of manifestos which are attributed to groups within military garrisons.

The Army commander answered: "I want to categorically deny the existence of generation movements or groups. There are no secret clubs, political groups or parties within the Army. Anyone who tries to confuse public opinion by saying that such groups exist is badly mistaken, and he is only trying to smear the Army's renewed image by spreading rumors."

General Tordoya said that the participation of servicemen in government positions has been detrimental to the military institution, and that, consequently, one of the main tasks of the Army Command "is depolitization."

He added: "The return to the barracks marks the resumption of a professional career in the country's service under the provisions of the Constitution."

As for the distribution of manifestos within the military garrisons, General Tordoya said that the Army Command issued a circular ordering the commands of all units to take drastic measures against the authors of such manifestos, so as to enforce strict military discipline.

1980 COUP LEADERS BROUGHT TO MILITARY TRIAL

PY152108 Paris AFP in Spanish 2134 GMT 11 Mar 83

[Text] La Paz, 11 Mar (AFP) -- It was reported here today that the court of honor of the Bolivian Armed Forces has brought to trial 29 commanders and officers involved in the illegal exploitation and marketing of semiprecious stones from La Gaiba deposits in the easternmost part of Bolivia.

In addition to involving the junta of commanders in chief which staged the coup d'etat 17 July 1980: Gen Luis Garcia Meza, Gen Waldo Bernal Pereira and Rear Adm Ramiro Terrazas Villaroel, the trial also involves Col Rolando Canido and Col Carlos Macias.

During Garcia Meza's regime these colonels were commanders of the Castrillo regiment headquartered in Puerto Suarez, 1,500 km east of La Paz.

According to information disclosed by high-ranking members of the military court of honor, the Brazilian company Rummy Ltd signed a private contract to exploit La Gaiba deposits with the junta of commanders then led by Garcia Meza.

FIGUEIREDO RENEWS TRUCE CALL IN ANNIVERSARY TALK

PY150210 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Speech by President Joao Baptista Figueiredo marking fourth anniversary of his inauguration from the Alvorada Palace in Brasilia -- recorded]

[Text] The words of the Honorable Minister Walter Pires, a friend under any circumstance, reflect in a brotherly manner the congratulations of the cabinet for the passage tomorrow of the fourth anniversary of my inauguration as president of the nation.

After recalling the struggle and difficulties we have all been through during these past 4 years, Army Minister Walter Pires quite properly noted the difference existing between the situation now and that in 1979. He thus stressed the rapid changes that are taking place within the Brazilian society, as well as the growing complexity of the problems which the government is called upon to resolve. Minister Pires has thus clearly outlined the government's accomplishments in the economic, social and political areas. He also deplored the lack of understanding by those who are prone to think negatively, but at the same time he expressed his belief in the workings of the democratic system and in the possibility of governing democratically. He also voiced his confidence in the country's future and his unconditional support for the task I am conducting. This expression of broad and unconditional support comes at a historic time of our political development.

Just a few days ago, in a message addressed to Congress, I made a proposal for a political truce to the opposition. Some interpreted this proposal as an attempt to mollify the opposition. But the proposal which I now reiterate is a gesture of greatness. It is not an invitation for the opposition to capitulate, but it is indeed an invitation for the opposition to engage in dialogue and understanding. This truce must be viewed as a process through which the various political parties try to overcome unjustified divergences in order to serve the national interests. Truce is the search for reconciliation and good disposition; it presupposes the belief that, through proper debate, participants of good will can forge a unity of spirit and action.

Truce is also an expression of solidarity in broad and unconditional terms as new governors are about to take office, an event which marks the beginning of another important step along the path of the country's democratization. As a result of the election of new political leaders on 15 November 1982 there will be changes in the relationships of power which prevailed until that date, one of those changes being related to the partisan struggle for which I proposed a truce.

In this last stage of my term in office I will continue to ensure the conditions for the defense and consolidation of the country's institutions so that we can have understanding and find peaceful solutions to our problems. I am most willing to maintain with the new governors, regardless of their partisan allegiance, constructive, working relations. With due regard for the general interests of the union, the particular interest of the states, whose autonomy in accordance with the Constitution must be respected, will be given due consideration. I reaffirm my intention of maintaining dialogue with the opposition, but I will decidedly confront those who might opt for defiance of the regime. Let nobody confuse loyal and constructive opposition with radical confrontation. I expect that intelligence and moderation will help to properly understand the historic moment we now live. The overwhelming majority of the nation wishes no confrontation and revanchism but understanding and reconciliation among Brazilians.

I also reaffirm out of institutional loyalty and personal conviction that I will stand by my unshakable commitment to democracy, in my belief for its values, and in my faith for its institutions and methods. I will guarantee freedom as an instrument of democracy and common good. However, I will not allow freedom to degenerate into the misuse of constitutional privileges. I will insure the rigorous compliance of ethical principles, not permitting any deviation from them in the conduct of public business. The time calls for austerity, discipline, and respect for the law. These values must inspire the action of political leaders and government officials alike.

During the 4 years to be completed tomorrow, the successes we have had cannot be denied. However, the mission has not yet been accomplished. I want to stress the need that, beginning now, we must face up to the most important process of political liberalization: the consolidation of democratic institutions. This is an arduous task, fraught with perils, but nevertheless a necessary task. Under the guidelines I have outlined, I call upon all democratic forces for a joint effort in order to overcome stubborn positions, and to avoid the return to useless squabbles and divisive radicalism. Only through loyal, flexible dialogue and negotiations carried out in an objective manner will it be possible to create in our country a politically free, economically strong and economically just society.

I extend my best wishes for success in the serene management of their states to the new governors who in a few more hours will be sworn into office to share with me the executive responsibility and commitments to the nation.

To the ministers who came to pledge their appreciation and confidence, I give my thanks and an embrace.

CONTROVERSY OVER U.S. ACTIVITIES IN SEI VIEWED

PY110019 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 Mar 83 p 16

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos (O GLOBO) -- There is no reason for a deeper study of the document prepared by U.S. State Department officials on the Brazilian information science policy, because the disagreements are well known and will be discussed at a high-level meeting of the two governments to be held soon. The date has not yet been established, however. This is what Col Joubert de Oliveira Brizida, information science special secretary, said yesterday right after giving the inaugural class to new students of the Aeronautics Technological Institute, at the Aerospace Technical Center, in this city.

Colonel de Oliveira Brizida stated that he already knew the content of the U.S. document, "that it is not official and will serve only as an aid for a team that will reportedly come to Brazil toward the end of February [as published] to exchange ideas." De Oliveira Brizida added that all the answers to that document -- which accuses Brazil of practicing an extremely protectionist policy and of preventing the participation of U.S. companies in the sector -- are ready.

I can guarantee, he stated, that up to now, I have not received any instructions to change anything in the country's information science policy. So, it will remain as it is, intact, regardless of what the Americans say and suggest.

De Oliveira Brizida feels that U.S. industry already has a large share in the Brazilian market, "because in all the equipment we have, there are U.S. components, including in those items affected by market restrictions" [reserva de mercado]. He voiced assurances that the policy of protecting Brazilian industry will be maintained through market restrictions, both for the minicomputers -- of up to two "megabytes" [given in English] -- and for the superminicomputers, of which there will be Brazilian projects ready by the end of the first half of the year.

The information science special secretary admitted, however, that some changes could be made in the idea of what is considered Brazilian enterprise, seeking to expand the meaning of it.

The concept we are using today is too specific, established decree by decree and hinged on several legal definitions. We need a broader idea. That does not mean we will be making room at the expense of national capital and technology.

According to De Oliveira Brizida, the United States has no reason to complain about the opportunities for investing in Brazil because U.S. participation in the information science field is quite significant.

Software [subhead given in English]

Regarding the registration of software for computers at the Information Science Special Secretariat [SEI], Colonel de Oliveira Brizida stated that this procedure favors even the interests of foreign manufacturers. There is great disagreement in this regard because there is no international consensus on the production of software, he stated. Brazil has decided to consider this case as a transfer of technology, and as such the software must be registered to prevent smuggling. The United States, Sweden and the FRG, especially, do not agree with the Brazilian position.

De Oliveira Brizida added that Brazil is trying to get Brazilian branches of large foreign enterprises to equip themselves both with machines and with software available from local offices. At the same time, Brazil is also trying to encourage Brazilian enterprises to give preference to Brazilian technology. He then reported that in 1976, there was practically no Brazilian participation in the information science market, but 4 years later, out of 8,800 installed computers, 17 percent were made in Brazil. The following year, there were 14,249 computers, 43 percent made in Brazil. According to preliminary data, last year, national industry made more than half of the 23,000 installed computers.

Brazilian participation in terms of value was less, however. Two years ago the installed park was valued at \$1.65 billion, but Brazilian-made equipment only accounted for 7 percent of that amount. In 1981, the market increased to \$2.14 billion, and the Brazilian participation was double the previous year's total. In 1982, the value of the installed park increased to \$2.5 billion, \$500 million of which -- 20 percent -- was Brazilian equipment.

SOVIETS EXERCISE OPTION, INCREASE SUGAR PURCHASE

PY111542 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 10 Mar 83 p 20

[Excerpts] Recife -- The Soviet delegation, which arrived here to verify the loading of 500,000 tons of sugar which the Soviet Union is buying from Brazil, announced the purchase of another 250,000 tons. With this additional purchase the total value of the operation might be as high as \$200 million. The delegation is headed by Prodimtorg President Vladimir Golanov.

The 500,000-ton import contract with the option to purchase another 250,000 tons -- half of this in refined sugar and half in brown sugar -- was concluded in the second half of last year. The Soviet decision to exercise that option was interpreted by Pernambuco sugar businessmen as a total success for the first transaction which was negotiated between a Brazilian private company, trading company MAPA, and the Soviet Union without government participation.

The sugar sold to the Soviet Union through the Sugar and Alcohol Institute -- which has a monopoly over sugar exports -- is being refined in Sao Paulo, Alagoas and Pernambuco, and being shipped through the ports of Itajai, Santos and Recife.

The average price per ton of exported brown sugar dropped 41 percent last year, down from \$370 in 1981 to \$217. Crystallized sugar prices declined 50 percent, down to \$193 per ton in 1982; and refined sugar prices slumped by 48 percent to \$224 last year. This information was provided by Cacex [Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brazil].

BRIZOLA TAKES OFFICE AS RIO DE JANEIRO GOVERNOR

PY151658 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1600 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] The attention of the entire country has been focusing on the swearing-in of Leonel Brizola, one of the most controversial and fiery opposition leaders. He assumed office with an energetic and resounding speech addressed to the people in defense of his socialist ideas. He reaffirmed that man will be the focus of attention in his government.

[Begin Brizola recording] We are the first legitimate government of the state of Rio de Janeiro. And when I say government, I am referring to the powers which are formed, instituted and integrated through the popular vote. Now at last, the legislative and executive branches are legitimate. [end recording]

ASSEMBLY, EXPORT OF TUCANO, XINGU PLANES

PY161155 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] The Brazilian Aeronautics Company (Embraer) is concluding the assembly of five new turbo-propelled EMB-312 Tucano planes at its assembly plant in Sao Jose dos Campos, Sao Paulo State. These aircraft will be used for basic military training by the Air Force school.

The Tucano aircraft was praised by Air Force commanders who attended the Farnborough aerospace show in England because of its good performance.

The Brazilian Air Force (FAB) has already recommended the assembly of another 118 EMB-312 Tucano aircraft.

Under its export program Embraer has just delivered to the government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria an executive model of the 6-seater turbo-propelled Xingu aircraft equipped with two Pratt and Whitney PT6A--28 680 hp turbines and pressurization system. This aircraft can fly at a speed of 569 km per hour and has a flight range of more than 2,000 km.

LOAN TAXES FOR SMALL, MEDIUM ENTERPRISES LIFTED

PY160139 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] The Central Bank has issued a communique announcing the elimination of the tax for financial operations [imposto sobre operacoes financieras -- IOF] on loans granted to small and medium enterprises in order to refinance the increase, in cruzeiros, by 30 percent of their foreign commitments.

The Central Bank has also reduced, from 20 percent to 5 percent, the tax on exports of surplus soybeans, crude, purified and refined soybean meal, soybean cake and other soybean by-products.

The Central Bank pointed out that this measure will be valid until 31 March 1984.

HORIZONT INTERVIEW WITH SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER

AUI51230 East Berlin HORIZONT No 11/1983 in German p 12

[HORIZONT interview with Clodomiro Almeyda, general secretary of the Socialist Party, of Chile -- date and place not given]

[Excerpt] HORIZONT: Again and again we get reports on the terror of the Pinochet regime. According to statements of victims, the methods, including torture, used by the bloodhounds of the repression apparatus are getting more and more ingenious. At the same time Pinochet is still trying to polish the reputation of the dictatorship with pseudodemocratic measures -- like for instance allowing several emigrants to return to their homeland under certain conditions. How do the forces of the opposition react to this "double strategy?"

Clodomiro Almeyda: The democratic forces of Chile have characterized these demagogic measures as a "cosmetic operation" to improve the regime's international image. In view of the great economic difficulties with which the Pinochet regime is confronted it needs the support of the governments of the capitalist countries -- and that at a time in which the people's and the progressive forces in Spain, France, Sweden and other countries have a not insignificant influence.

But as in the case of the permission to return which was given to a small number of emigrants, these measures, for which so much propaganda was made in foreign countries, have remained without any content and have brought about just the opposite of what was intended. They have not convinced any one. For the Chilean people they are only a mockery.

The overwhelming majority of the Chileans wants the military government to step down so that the people again get their democratic right to determine their own fate themselves, that human rights are respected unreservedly and that all emigrants can return to the country without any conditions. This is the only solution. Everything else is only sham, only fraud.

HORIZONT: On 19th April there is the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Socialist Party of Chile. What are the aims of your party in the present stage?

Clodomiro Almeyda: For the coming 50th anniversary of the Socialist Party of Chile we have now the aim to strengthen the party in Chile so that together with the Communists, the Radical party, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left and the leftist parties of Christian character it can contribute to developing and expanding the struggle of the masses and making it more radical with the prospect of a national rising in cooperation with all oppositional forces.

We believe that in this struggle, which is to mobilize and unite the masses and lead them to fight, the unity of the people concerning a revolutionary, democratic program will deepen and thus the real people's and national alternative will develop, with which we must oppose the fascist military dictatorship.

HORIZONT: How does the party assess the possibilities to oppose the adventurous imperialist confrontation policy?

Clodomiro Almeyda: Our party has the view that it is possible to oppose and to defeat those forces and interests, which are now leading the world again toward the brink of a war under the command of U.S. imperialism, under the Reagan administration. And we take that view because the peoples are most deeply concerned by the danger of a nuclear confrontation which threatens all of mankind. They do not want a war and are striving to work and to advance, something that is only possible in an atmosphere of peace, in a climate of detente and gradual disarmament. What is spent and wasted today for a costly as well as useless war armament could then be placed in the service of human needs.

This peace will be expressed in an enormous mass movement and in a more active resistance of forces throughout the world that are aware of their responsibility against the confrontation policy. Not only in Western Europe but also in the Third World and even in the United States itself the progressive social forces are more and more strongly opposing the adventurous policy of imperialism.

In Central America the strength of the Latin American peoples' masses and the progressive public has so far been able to check a direct aggression against Nicaragua and Cuba and to prevent an even more open intervention in El Salvador. The positive attitude to the proposals which the states of the Warsaw Pact have submitted in their Prague Declaration as well as the response to the swift and approving answer of the GDR to the Swedish proposal to create a zone free of nuclear battlefield weapons in Europe demonstrate the advance of the forces which support peace, detente and disarmament.

From all this, it can be concluded that the powerful movement for peace in the world will result in first neutralizing and then defeating the provocative and irresponsible policy of imperialism which threatens the world with a nuclear catastrophe.

HAVANA NOTES CONTROVERSY OVER PRIESTS' EXPULSION

PA131818 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 83

[Text] Some 90 priests are continuing the hunger strike which they began yesterday in Santiago, Chile, to protest the fascist military government's decision to expel 3 clergymen from the country: Irish priests (Vernon George) and (Desmond McCullicun) and Australian (Bryan McMahan).

Augusto Pinochet's dictatorship has not announced its reasons for cancelling the residents visas of the three priests who have been aiding children and the unemployed in Santiago's working-class neighborhoods for almost 10 years.

On the occasion of the second anniversary of the imposition of the Chilean military regime's Constitution, General Augusto Pinochet reiterated that he will not allow the exercise of his authority to be restricted or curtailed by the provisions of that document.

The Chilean Human Rights Commission has reported that the military dictatorship is using the existing fascist Constitution to curtail the exercise of civil and political rights. As an example, the commission points to the decision to expel three foreign priests.

FARC SEEKS DIALOGUE WITH PRESIDENT ON PEACE

PA150311 Paris AFP in Spanish 1821 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] Bogota, 14 Mar (AFP) -- The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), a communist guerrilla group, today invited President Belisario Betancur to hold talks with the group. Their letter pointed out that this could be done either through direct personal contact or through representatives and that it was intended as an effort to search for a path that would lead to a democratic opening.

The guerrilla group sent a message signed by their highest leader, the legendary Manuel Marulanda Velez, alias "Tiro Fijo," today. They propose a meeting with the president in the La Uribe forest region of the eastern plains.

The letter from FARC was published 12 hours after Betancur, in a speech televised throughout the country, said that he has declared war on crime, subversion, kidnapping and terrorism and renewed his call for the achievement of peace.

The FARC asks that Betancur order the removal of troops from the La Uribe area if he agrees to the talks.

The government has not yet responded to the FARC letter.

NUCLEAR ENERGY OFFICIAL ON EXPANSION PLANS

PA152019 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Excerpts] Bogota -- The Nuclear Affairs Institute, IAN, has plans to expand its services in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, including such important sectors of development as medicine, agriculture, livestock, hydrology and hydroelectricity.

This was announced today by Ernesto Villarreal Silva, director of this state-run institute, who said that the expansion of services will take place once an initial agreement signed last year with Argentina for the purchase of equipment is concluded. He added that negotiations should be concluded this month, since the statement of intent was signed in October of last year, and the 6-month negotiating period it set forth expires in April.

Villarreal Silva also said that for the first time in Colombia there are plans to produce the radioisotopes used in nuclear medicine, which are presently imported in quantities costing over 23 million pesos [no time period specified].

There are also plans to purchase a reactor able to generate between 3,000 and 5,000 kilowatts, since the one we currently have only produces 20 kilowatts [as heard], which is insufficient for present demands, Villarreal said.

He also announced that the institute has been considering the purchase of a uranium metallurgy plant, which would consist of a laboratory to produce uranium concentrate, a spectrometer, equipment for absorption analysis, and equipment for chemical analysis of plasma sources.

Other services provided by the IAN are: In the agricultural field, treatment of seeds to prevent and control disease; in the hydrology field, nuclear energy for studies to detect leaks in dams or pipes; in the hydroelectricity field, detection of leaks in the energy ducts of hydroelectric plants; in the field of radiologic safety, providing oversight and advice for those who use nuclear energy in order to prevent accidents and to make sure that they can perform their duties without any risk.

REPORTAGE ON INVESTIGATION OF JOURNALISTS' MURDER

Final Report Submitted

PY160027 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 5 Mar 83 p 1

[Excerpt] According to the final report on the killing of eight journalists last January in Uchuraccai, the massacre was committed by the members of that community acting by themselves, and probably assisted by members of other nearby communities. This report was submitted last night to President Belaunde by the government-appointed investigative commission.

During that ceremony, the three members of the commission made statements: writer Mario Vargas Llosa, Dean of the Peruvian Journalists College Mario Castro Arena, and lawyer Abraham Guzman Figueroa.

In his statement, Vargas Llosa noted that the basic task of the investigative commission of ferreting out the truth was accomplished, although some aspects of the killings are still obscure. He said that the investigation was carried out with absolute impartiality.

Castro Arenas, in turn, noted that all work was done with full freedom of action as befits the democratic regime ruling the country.

Lawyer Figueroa thanked the president for the confidence placed in the members of the commission, adding that the task was carried out in complete freedom which permitted clarification of fact.

Bar Urges Support

PA142000 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Mar 83

[Text] The Bar Association of Peru has urged the Peruvian Government to give the necessary support to the judicial branch in Ayacucho Department -- particularly to the authorities who are investigating the murder of eight newsmen on 28 January 1983, in the community of Uchuraccai.

This request is based on reports by Supreme Court Chief Justice (Jose Maria Galvez) on the conditions of justice in Ayacucho. He fears that the murder of the newsmen will go unpunished because of lack of support from the government and lack of means for the authorities in that department.

(Galvez) claims that Uchuraccai Governor (Fortunato Gavilan) has not been summoned by the authorities and that the members of the Peruvian civil guard specialized corps that were in Uchuraccai before and after the murders were committed have not been questioned.

Meanwhile, the DIARIO DE MARKA reports that in Huanta Province, Ayacucho Department, where Uchuraccai is located, the People That Kill People [Gente Que Mata Gente] paramilitary group headed by (Gavilan) continues terrorizing the zone, despite official reports denying the existence of such group.

CGTP CLAIMS 10 MAR STRIKE 'COMPLETE SUCCESS'

PY110248 Paris AFP in Spanish 0120 GMT 11 Mar 83

[Text] Lima, 10 Mar (AFP) -- The 24-hour national strike carried out in Peru today by the unions opposing the government was coming to an end calmly tonight in the midst of contradictory statements about its magnitude. Eduardo Castillo, secretary general of the procommunist General Confederation of Workers of Peru (CGTP) said that the strike was a complete success. Labor Minister Alfonso Grados Bertorini said that 90 percent of industry and public administration workers went to work.

The press indicated that the strike was 90 percent effective in Lima and 75 percent effective in the rest of the country. Newspaper correspondents indicated that in Cusco and Huancayo the strike was 100 percent effective. The same in Ayacucho, the center of activities of the terrorist group Shining Path. In Arequipa and Tacna in the south and in Trujillo in the north most people observed the strike. In Iquitos, in the Selva, and in Cerro de Pasco, in the central part of the country, work activity was almost normal.

Four persons died in incidents in the poor neighborhoods north of Lima according to the CGTP, which identified the victims by their names and ages. Exact details on the circumstances of the incidents are not known. Apparently people were throwing stones at public transit vehicles, which were running under armed police protection. There were also incidents in the outskirts south of Lima when groups of strikers blocked the streets with rocks and tree branches. There was a report of several people wounded and a few dozen arrests including four CGTP leaders but this has not been officially confirmed.

ALVA ORLANDINI ON NONALIGNED MOVEMENT SUMMIT

PY152349 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Prime Minister Fernando Schwaib has warmly congratulated Vice President Javier Alva Orlandini on his outstanding performance as Peru's representative at the Nonaligned Movement Summit held in New Delhi. Alva Orlandini, who returned from New Delhi early this morning, said that the reaffirmation of the premises upon which the Nonaligned Movement was created has been a major achievement of the New Delhi summit.

[Begin recording] [Alva Orlandini] Peru has maintained that the premises upon which the Nonaligned Movement was created must be reaffirmed, that is, it must be a force capable of bringing the two great centers of power into balance. We believe that practically all of the countries that attended the summit supports the Peruvian position. We feel reassured that in the next 3 years India's leader Indira Gandhi will head the Nonaligned Movement, which was sponsored by Jawaharlal Nehru, the great Indian leader.

[Question] What is your opinion of the attitude adopted by the Ecuadorean foreign minister, who once again raised the Peruvian-Ecuadorean border issue at the summit?

[Alva Orlandini] I would rather quote Quito's newspaper EL COMERCIO, which carried a report saying that the Ecuadorean Government's position was ridiculous, because it has insisted on raising the issue at almost all international forums, failing to recall that the problem has already been settled. [end recording]

UNITED LEFT URGES SIGNING OF LOS CONVENTION

PY120147 Lima EL OBSERVADOR in Spanish 28 Feb 83 p 10

[Excerpt] Through a multiparty commission, the United Left has reached the conclusion that "Peru must join the rest of the Third World countries by signing and ratifying the Law of the Sea Convention." This commission, made up of Enrique Bernales, Diego Garcia Sayan, Alberto Adrianzen, Ferinand Cuadros and Agustin Haya de la Torre pointed out that Peru has played a leading role over the last few years in the negotiations, a role which was correctly established by the Peruvian Foreign Ministry and which should not be neglected at the decisive point at which the negotiations are now.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON OIL PRICE DECREASE

Price Cut Details

FL151100 Bridgetown CANA in English 1027 GMT 15 Mar 83

[By Walker Simon]

[Text] Mexico City, March 15, CANA-REUTER -- Financially-pressed Mexico cut its oil price by 2.75 dollars per barrel last night, erasing a year-long price advantage over competitors in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Mexico, the world's fourthbiggest producers although not a member of OPEC, announced the new prices hours after OPEC cut its benchmark price by five dollars to 29.00 dollars per barrel.

Mexico's prized light Isthmus crude, comparable in quality to the Saudi light which acts as the OPEC marker, will now cost 29.00 dollars per barrel instead of 32.50, thus losing its advantage over the Saudi crude.

The price of Mexico's heavy Maya crude was cut from 25 to 23.00 dollars a barrel.

A spokesman for the state oil company Pemex told REUTERS the Maya price was fixed after Mexico agreed to cooperate with Venezuela in the heavy oil market, a highly competitive field particularly in the United States.

Oil is Mexico's main source of foreign revenue, badly needed to meet payments on its foreign debt of more than 80 billion dollars.

Mexico sells its crude in a 50/50 light-heavy mix and the president's office said the price cut would cost the country 1.3 billion dollars in projected crude income this year.

But the statement noted that a decline in world interest rates would save the country 1.5 billion dollars in interest payments due this year on its debt.

Before the price cut, the finance ministry had estimated oil income this year at 15 billion dollars, about three-quarters of total export revenue, and interest payments at 12 billion dollars.

The statement by the president's office recalled the efforts of the three-month old Administration of Miguel de la Madrid to consult OPEC closely before any price cut, a policy sharply contrasting with that of the preceding government which set prices in line with market demand.

The statement said that despite the relatively moderate price drop Mexico aimed to export 1.5 million barrels a day this year, the same as last year.

Deputy Anguiano Comments

FL160031 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2111 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Mexico City, 15 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- The chairman of the Energy Commission of the Chamber of Deputies, Hermenegildo Anguiano, today denied that the reduction in the price of Mexican oil announced by the president of the republic last night had been voluntary. Interviewed at the lower chamber's grand commission, the legislator explained that the Mexican Government's decision to reduce the price of crude (light from \$32.50 the barrel to \$29 and the heavy from \$25 to \$23) was due to world economic conditions.

He said the effects of the reduction will be felt in the national economy on the short term, inasmuch as the hydrocarbon is the main national export product which consequently will lead to a reduction in foreign currency received from that operation. It must be pointed out that in accordance with official estimates some \$1,378,000,000 will be lost to the country from 1 February last to 31 December 1983 in foreign currency.

However, Anguiano said he believed that the drop in the price of crude will reactivate on the medium term the Mexican economic activity and will encourage a greater demand for oil. He stated that the reduction in the price of oil will trigger a drop in interest rates and, consequently, will have an anti-inflationary effect, since the cost of production of all goods will go down.

Based on that, he said inflation will go down this year and the interest rates of the Mexican foreign debt, estimated to be \$80 billion, will also drop.

On another subject, the legislator referred to OPEC and said that there are pros and cons for Mexico to join it, but explained that it will not join because our oil policy would be subjected to the decisions of the organization. He further mentioned the San Jose treaty, by means of which Mexico and Venezuela are committed to supply oil to Central American and Caribbean countries. He added that in accordance with that treaty, signed in 1980, Mexico and Venezuela will continue to support the Central American countries, whose needs are many and the crisis they are traversing is very serious.

If we believe in the international solidarity we have with Central America, I opine we should support them despite the crisis, or perhaps because of it, he added.

Elsewhere in his statements, Anguiano stated that the future of the economy requires a greater rationality in the consumption on energy, and added that today there is a greater awareness of the waste.

TV REPORTS REACTION TO PAREDES STATEMENT

PA121930 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Mar 83

[Excerpts] General Ruben Dario Paredes, commander in chief of the National Guard, made a statement yesterday to the effect that a government of national agreement is necessary to prevent the country from falling apart. Televisora Nacional interviewed Fernando Manfredo [Panama Canal Commission deputy administrator] this morning on the points that could require a national agreement. Manfredo believes that the labor code could be one of the topics of national accord. On the subject, Manfredo said:

[Begin Manfredo recording] I believe that experience with the labor code has shown that it has not contributed to the attainment of fundamental objectives in the nation's interest such as the generation of jobs, increased productivity and the promotion of improved labor-management relations. I believe that even the labor unions recognize this and realize that the necessary changes to the labor code must be made to achieve the desired objectives. [end recording]

The nation's various political sectors also expressed opinions about General Paredes' statements. Diogenes de la Rosa [former Panama Canal treaty negotiator] said the following about the National Guard commander's remarks:

[Begin De la Rosa recording] I feel that the statements made by Gen Ruben Dario Paredes yesterday change the political picture completely and bring very important concepts into play, concepts that should determine new movements and attitudes in all Panama's political areas which, I repeat, are not the same throughout the nation, because the latter encompasses much more. What attracts my attention most in the general's statement is the idea of a national unity government, which, though in different words, coincides with what I have said since 1976: to get out of our present situation and take the path to a representative and participatory democracy, we first have to have a national pact. [end recording]

The Authentic Panamenista Party expressed its opinion through Guillermo Endara, its representative on the Commission for Constitutional Reforms. Endara spoke of the national unity government:

[Begin Endara recording] Ever since Dr Arnulfo Arias spoke in OCU several years ago, the Authentic Panamenista Party has maintained the position that the solution to the approaching chaos in Panama is absolute unity. I emphasize absolute unity because our aim is to unite the entire Panamanian people in order to get out of the situation we are in now and avoid the approaching chaos. The Authentic Panamenista Party sees this unity, not necessarily from the political point of view or from the viewpoint of being in government. This national unity does not necessarily have to mean a ministry for certain parties or a ministry for anything, for the sharing of booty. The unity can come in many ways that are not the sharing of political booty, and this is what the Panamenista Party has preached since the OCU speech some years ago. [end recording]

Jorge Fernandez, executive secretary of the Labor Party (PALA) also commented on the Paredes statement and his call for a national unity government. The PALA executive secretary said:

[Begin Fernandez recording] I feel that General Paredes, having sounded out the country's political reality, the national reality, has spoken out intelligently and with great moderation on the need for national unity. There are many problems to be solved in this country and I feel that General Paredes' words do reflect our reality. [end recording]

Eberto Anguizola, secretary general of the Popular Broad Front (Frampo) spoke for his party as follows:

[Begin Anguizola recording] I believe, and would like to say in the Popular Broad Front's name, that we are pleased with yesterday's statements by General Paredes, because we believe that he will put what he said into practice. What we need in Panama is a great government of national unity in which all sectors participate so that we can live in peace and have this country advance. [end recording]

Professor Rigoberto Paredes, secretary general of the Revolutionary Democratic Party, [PRD] also spoke about the statement made by the chief of the National Guard. He said:

[Begin Rigoberto Paredes recording] I feel that the position taken by General Paredes places him on a very high plane in our history, not only in the history of Panama but all America, because he is a military man who leads an institution that has the weapons, that has the public's confidence and that has the strength to impose its will. Nevertheless, he is saying that we should try to achieve national unity. We hope that in other parts of the world where there are great struggles and great confrontations, this type of political solution can be achieved. At the moment I don't know to what extent this call for national unity from General Paredes will be received or properly accepted by some sectors. It seems that the first reactions have been positive. I hope they are because we have to consider the nation's interest as above all personal interests. In that sense, I repeat: I believe that the general has placed himself in a very high position in this country's history. [end recording]

Here is how Olimpo Saez, the president of the Popular Nationalist Party [PNP], commented on what General Paredes said at his news conference yesterday:

[Begin Saez recording] It is advisable for us to say here in a loud voice that in 1977 when our party, the PNP, was formed, we sent a private letter to General Omar Torrijos Herrera. In this document we demanded constitutional reforms and we demanded a national unity government in order to overcome the great national problems. Later, when General Torrijos died, we sent a letter to Colonel Florencio Florez [former National Guard commander] in which we said that the moment had come for the National Guard to relinquish their hold over the country's political life and allow the Panamanian people to decide their own fate. Later on 3 March, we sent a letter to General Paredes, in which we also insisted on the need to have the country enter a phase of nationwide correction in an effort to resolve the deep crisis that Panama faced. We were pleased with this statement by General Paredes, which is the statement of the National Guard, particularly of the chiefs of staff.

We feel that the situation the country is facing is sufficiently grave for the political parties, the politicians, the businessmen, the labor leaders and the civic and religious groups that are part of Panamanian society to understand the message, analyze it, reflect on it in private and in public and then decide before the Panamanian people to make the best decisions, the most patriotic decisions, so that the people will not have to face the confrontations, sectarianism or the vengefulness that other peoples face and that the Panamanian people have faced in the past. We, the PNP, receive General Paredes' call with a deep patriotic concern.

I take advantage of Televisora Nacional's channels to ask the political party leaders, all the professional business, labor and youth leaders of this country to mediate on this call. The PNP will soon make an exhaustive analysis of the situation and will make a patriotic call to the Panamanian people regarding the statement made by General Paredes, which is a statement from the National Guard. [end recording]

For his part, Carlos Ivan Zuniga, president of the Peoples Action Party [PAPO], expressed his opinion on Paredes' remarks by saying:

[Begin Zuniga recording] You know that as a consequence of the pope's visit to Central America, democracy and the democratic spirit of its peoples, have been reborn. In El Salvador, the president has announced that elections will be held soon. I think that the national unity government proposed by General Paredes is, in a way, the result of the pope's visit, which has introduced harmony as an imperative for all Panamanian men.

On a personal level, the pope's visit shook my very roots, took me back to my crib, to my origins. I think that with the pope's visit, the Panamanian people have also been shaken to their very roots and taken back to their cribs, to their origins, to their birth certificates, to their town councils [cabildos], which are political expression of the peoples.

I don't conceive the national unity as a means of getting in step with the government, but as a means of structuring the Panamanian nation. I therefore understand that a return to the town council, to the constituent power, which is the people's inalienable and lasting power, is suitable for this country.

The way in which General Paredes has proposed national unity is a skillful political move because it is intended to deflate the opposition (?when) our entire people want a change. If the change that the people seek is blocked by national unity because the opposition parties join the government, change won't take place. This national unity, intended to have other groups to join the bureaucracy, is merely a means of mocking the people's desire for change.

I frankly believe that a return to the town council, to the constituent power, is what lies closer to the Panamanian people's wishes. We should create democratic institutions under a new constitution.

You may have seen the report that Televisora Nacional aired yesterday, showing the placards for the planned PRD demonstration. They read: Let Us Defend Omar's Constitution. Well, for us PAPO members, it is not important to defend Omar's constitution, but to draft a constitution for all Panamanians with the participation of all Panamanians, because a constitution is the expression of the nation's will, not Omar's constitution.

General Paredes has dealt a skillful blow to deflate the opposition and to create a false image of the current political situation. Our people need to structure their authentic democratic institutions and to move toward the achievement of a constitution that is not Omar's but of all Panamanians. [end recording]

Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of the Christian Democratic Party, spoke about the constitutional amendments and the proposed national unity. He said:

[Begin Arias Calderon recording] I think the democratic opposition is gaining ground in this country for the country's own good. We have been fighting for years to attain certain demands concerning the Constitution. Now, even the National Guard, which used to oppose satisfaction of these demands, has joined the position that we Christian Democrats have been defending along with the other democratic members of the opposition.

In late February, the commission agreed, without having any specific draft, to introduce very substantial constitutional amendments. I would like to mention just a few.

Concerning the executive branch, the commission agreed that the president of the republic should organize and distribute the public force and that he would make the decisions concerning its use. This is very important because it turns the president of the republic into the chief of state of a democracy. In addition, the commission had already agreed to dramatically reinforce the legislative branch. In line with this thinking, the commission has already agreed that the legislative branch is empowered to question and even censure the ministers, to appoint the comptroller general, to approve the budget and to examine the state's accounts. In other words, the commission decided that we should have a real legislative branch.

Furthermore, it has been known for weeks that a broad majority within the revisory commission favors democratic changes. This gave the National Guard only two options: it could either disregard the commission's work, leading the country toward an even more serious crisis, or it could join the democratic consensus that is being forged, leaving room for the possibility of providing a peaceful solution to the serious national crisis we are currently experiencing.

As for the problem posed by the national crisis, I will discuss the second subject, that of the so-called national unity. If by national unity one is to understand reaching an agreement on a new democratic constitution, as has gradually been done, then the answer is yes, of course. A democratic constitution must be based on a very broad consensus among the entire population.

If by national unity one is to understand reaching an agreement on holding truly pure elections in which the state won't intervene on behalf of any candidate, the National Guard remains truly neutral as a professional institute and in which whomever obtains the votes wins, then evidently the answer is yes. Democratic elections necessitate broad consensus.

If by national unity one is to understand a serious public discussion of the country's pressing problems -- our current economic crisis, the need to decide whether a sea-level canal is a suitable idea, the need to protect the environment for us and our descendants, the need to live in a peaceful and free region -- and the proposal of solutions on behalf of the suffering population, especially the poor and young people, then the answer is yes to national unity. A country must gradually forge consensus about its problems and lines of action.

However, if by national unity one should understand the assumption of responsibility for a government in crisis, exhausted and spent, a government for which the only alternative is to preside over an election, a government subject to constant intervention by the National Guard, then, evidently, the answer is no. The idea now is to hold an election and to elect a new government, not to assume responsibility for a government that is frankly in the midst of a worrisome process of exhaustion.
[end recording]

Mario Galindo, a lawyer who belongs to the Directorate of the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement [Molirena], spoke as a private citizen on General Paredes' statement yesterday. He said:

[Begin Galindo recording] Although I have not had the chance to reflect on the subject in depth, let alone discuss it with members of my party's political committee and am therefore giving a personal opinion, I would say the following:

First, I do not conceive of national unity as involving carving up the national budget into minute portions, or carrying out a distribution of bureaucratic posts. It seems to me that from that viewpoint, national unity would be neither advisable nor viable. The country must realize that the government and the opposition have differing viewpoints on many subjects; thus, I repeat, a carving up of the national budget is not true national unity.

I do believe that there can be national unity with regard to many specific, serious problems that the Panamanian nation is facing, and that these problems are not exactly those mentioned by General Paredes, such as amendment of the labor code and the housing laws. It seems to me that it would be difficult to forge national unity on the basis of those two issues.

However, I believe there are other issues that would bring about great national unity. I refer specifically, for example, to the enormous public debt that is weighing on the government and on the Panamanian people. It must be refinanced promptly in order to alleviate the pressure it is exerting on the national budget. I believe that with regard to a topic of this kind, there should be an expansive, frank dialogue between the opposition and government designed to bring about a united solution, one that does not become a political problem, in order to help the country emerge from the mire in which it is currently sunk.

I believe that from that viewpoint, certain things can be done together, but there should not be measured distribution of the national bureaucracy. [end recording]

Cesar Pereira Burgos, a legislator for Herrera Province and a member of the Liberal Party Directorate, said:

[Being Pereira recording] The Liberal Party has consistently recognized the need for a government based on national agreement since 1977. Because of this we participated in the high level commission and in the 1980 elections, and this feeling has also led us to make an infinite number of pronouncements that have been reported by local television and radio stations and by the press on the definite need to arrive at a government of national agreement in order to emerge from the institutional crisis that the country is experiencing and that in turn produces a political, economic and social crisis. No one can deny the proposals that have been made by the opposition in the past 10 years and that were finally acknowledged by General Paredes last night.

However, to us Panamanians, the important matters are: When will this agreement be reached? What is the purpose of that agreement? With whom will the agreement be reached? Finally: What repercussions will that agreement have on the 1984 general elections? Therefore, to say an emphatic yes to announcement of the need for arriving at a national agreement to find solutions to the country's problems is nothing more than to reiterate the basic position held by the Liberal Party for the past 10 years.

The Liberal Party's reservations regarding this declaration and this new situation can be summarized as follows: The agreement cannot be left for some time or another, because the country wants that agreement now, not when the General Staff or the president of the republic decide that it is politically expedient. The country is enduring every day that crisis of which General Paredes spoke last night, a crisis that was not caused by the opposition.

What is the purpose of that national agreement? To put us face to face with the institutional crisis from which all the nation's insecurities derive. We need the agreement to ensure that the 1984 elections will be genuine and honest. Why? Because the results of the 1984 elections -- in which the winner must receive a clear mandate from the majority of Panamanians -- will determine whether there will be tranquillity and peace from 1984 onward.

Why this agreement? So that through national agreement there will be a real transfer of power to the country's legal and constitutional government, the government of the president of the republic and his Cabinet.

No one denies that the government requires the participation of an important organ of the state, which is the National Guard, but it is necessary to prevent a repetition of statements made here to the effect that there is power other than that of the president of the republic or the executive branch, in which power is vested by the Constitution. [end recording]

Colonel Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of staff of the National Guard, issued the following warning to the opposition parties:

[Begin Noriega recording] I believe that the words of the commander of the National Guard were truly clear. Everyone can interpret them in his own way. I think that everything was explained there, particularly the duty of the National Guard to extend a bridge of unity based on Christian faith, because we can all live together in this fatherland. We hope that the opposition and the active forces in the country will understand this message and will accept and take advantage of this opportunity that is presented to them today. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTER ON C.A. CONFLICT, U.S. ROLE

PA151949 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Mar 83 p 1A

[By Maria Victoria Gonzalez]

[Text] "Panama's policy is not one of interventionism, and we are concerned and mistrustful that the military installations in our country -- which must be exclusively used for the defense and protection of our canal -- might be used to affect negatively the nations in the area or any other region in the world," Panamanian Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado III said yesterday to LA PRENSA when asked about U.S. military aid to the Salvadoran Government.

Referring to the present situation of the Salvadoran people, he said: "Unfortunately, the situation of Central America -- and especially that of El Salvador -- is due to complex and difficult conditions, and there are no simple answers." He added: "We cannot point to this or that alternative as the ideal mechanism to achieve an immediate and permanent peace in those countries." Amado said: "In the case of El Salvador, the situation that prevails today does not result from actions taken recently, but from a situation and from differences that were created decades ago." The foreign minister added that in the 1930's El Salvador was subjected to a very strong dose of violence, which is not easily corrected today with weapons or with speeches.

Regarding foreign intervention, he said: "Any action taken by any government -- from any region, and no matter what doctrine it may have, that promotes or encourages the increase of warlike activities in the area is not exactly helping us achieve an immediate and permanent peace in the Central American isthmus." "It is very important for Panama that we all respect the principle of nonintervention in other nations' internal affairs; and when we say nonintervention, we mean nonintervention by all nations in the affairs of any other nation. This is not a specific accusation, or directed at any nation; we are speaking in general terms," Amado said.

Amado also mentioned the cooperation of other nations in solving the Salvadoran problem, and pointed out that a joint action and marked effort by the international community is necessary, taking into consideration the importance and repercussions of this civil war, so that all the affected parties can enjoy an adequate support and climate to reach their own conclusions and seek formulas of understanding to overcome this genocide. "Military solutions are nothing but temporary solutions and cannot provide permanent solutions to such a complex problem. We hope and are confident that the United States will faithfully honor and respect this (nonintervention) principle written into the canal treaties," Amado concluded.

COSTA RICAHAVANA SAYS NICARAGUANS CAPTURED NEAR BORDER

PA141830 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Mar 83

[Text] Costa Rican authorities captured at least eight members of a Nicaraguan counter-revolutionary band near the Penas Blancas border post on Costa Rican territory. The Costa Rican authorities confiscated arms, communications equipment and supplies from the counterrevolutionary band.

The Costa Rican newspaper LA NACION quotes a public security source as having said that those arrested identified themselves as members of the counterrevolutionary movement led by Eden Pastora from Costa Rica. Pastora recently resumed his verbal attacks against the Sandinist people's process.

EL SALVADORARMY CONFIRMS DEATHS OF TWO JOURNALISTS

PA151753 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1727 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] San Salvador, 15 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran Army has confirmed the deaths yesterday of two persons, who were allegedly foreign journalists and who are still unidentified, during a clash in the northern part of the country.

The Armed Forces Press Committee (Coprefa) reported today in a communique that a man and a woman with photographic equipment were killed in a clash between the guerrillas and a military patrol near Suchitoto, 44 km north of San Salvador. In the shooting that ensued, the Army claims to have killed 18 insurgents and lost a soldier.

The foreigners have not yet been identified, because when they were searched by Coprefa they had no documents. At the time of her death, the woman had a paper with some writing, apparently German. The body of one alleged journalist is currently in the military hospital in this capital and will soon be taken to the judicial cemetery. The other journalist's body is still near Suchitoto for unspecified reasons.

The Armed Forces is currently conducting a vast operation in the Suchitoto area. Some 2,000 troops are participating in the operation.

More on Journalists' Deaths

PA151958 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1715 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] The Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa] reported the following this morning:

Two alleged foreign journalists were killed during clashes in La Bermuda. A man and a woman believed to be foreign journalists are among those killed when a group of terrorists attacked a military patrol in the area of La Bermuda yesterday morning. According to reports, a military patrol was on a search operation in the area of La Bermuda in the jurisdiction of Suchitoto. During the clash, the patrol inflicted 20 casualties on the extremists, including the two alleged foreign journalists; a white woman with photographic equipment and a black man. Only one soldier was killed. It is believed that the extremists' casualties might be higher since, in their flight, they took away several wounded, the Coprefa communique stated.

The two foreigners could not be identified since they were carrying no documents. When more information is obtained, the identity of the alleged foreign journalists will be released.

Regarding the Coprefa communique, we must add that the actions occurred yesterday morning near the village of La Bermuda and (Tonaco) canton in the jurisdiction of Suchitoto where the Atlacatl quick-strike battalion is carrying out a counterinsurgency operation. Reporters are waiting for the arrival of the bodies of the alleged journalists. It has been officially announced that in the next few hours the woman's body will be transferred to the morgue at the Isidro Menendez Judicial Center in San Salvador.

ALEJANDRO MONTENEGRO INTERVIEWED IN PANAMA

PA151713 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 15 Mar 83

["Special Edition" program with Mayin Correa; part two of interview with Alejandro Montenegro, former guerrilla leader of the Salvadoran People's Revolutionary Army, in Bogota, Colombia; date of interview not given -- recorded. Part one published in 9 March DAILY REPORT.]

[Excerpts] [Correa] Good evening, friends. Last Monday Alejandro Montenegro, a former commander of the Salvadoran People's Revolutionary Army, ERP, discussed his 6-year involvement with the violent groups currently active in El Salvador, Honduras and the rest of the Central American area. Last week Montenegro explained how he joined the guerrillas, and he discussed his illusions and disappointments as a guerrilla. He told us of his desire for the change that our peoples need, explaining that what he really wanted was a democracy.

In today's program, the former guerrilla commander, who held a lengthy conversation with us in Bogota, Colombia, which lasted several hours, will go on talking to us, providing details about Cuban and Nicaraguan involvement in Salvadoran and Central American guerrilla activities.

[Question] You have mentioned in passing that there was training abroad, meaning Cuba, by way of Nicaragua. Could you provide more details?

[Answer] Have been trained as officers in Havana. [sentence as heard] They term themselves officers. Two have been trained as battalion chiefs. They studied between 8 months and 1 year in Havana. As for the organization to which I belonged, I personally selected eight members of the organization early in 1981. I was ordered to select some personnel for training. These eight persons were trained in Cuba as commandos or special forces. They returned in late 1981, in October, and together we prepared the sabotage action against the Air Force. I was... [Correa interrupts]

[Question] In San Salvador?

[Answer] Yes, in San Salvador. I planned a sabotage action against the Air Force facilities, and these eight commandos executed the plan, infiltrating the military garrison and destroying several aircraft. These eight combatants trained in Havana for 6 months. I myself went to Cuba later.

[Question] You went to Cuba?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] In what year?

[Answer] I went in July 1981. I met with several officials of the special operations department.

[Question] Is this the department that Barbarossa directs?

[Answer] I don't know much about that, but from what I have read recently, yes. It has to do with the Americas Department, as they call it. [Files list Manuel Pineiro as chief of the Americas Department]

In July, in Cuba, we held a meeting that lasted about 4 days. The Cuban officials were very interested in hearing the military and political reports that the chiefs of the various fronts had taken there.

In October I went to Managua, where another meeting was held with the same [word indistinct] officials. Their military activities carried out in August, during a military campaign launched in El Salvador in August, were reviewed. As in July, they heard the various reports presented by the military chiefs of the various fronts.

These are the specific aspects with which I was directly connected. There are some other aspects with which I am indirectly familiar, which prove that there is Cuban interference in this whole situation and that they are not only training officers to direct activities internally, but also the combatants who will carry out these activities inside the country.

[Question] On several occasions you have mentioned the term disappointment. You are obviously disappointed with life as a guerrilla. You started at 15, you are now 28 years old, so your life has been that of a guerrilla. You sound disappointed, disenchanted. You say one of the reasons for your disenchantment is the fact that the Salvadoran people have demonstrated that they want to elect their leaders. This got to you; it moved you to leave the movement, to reflect on your position as a guerrilla. Tell us more, give us more details of your disappointment.

[Answer] It might be called disappointment and an apparent change in position. I say apparent, because it is not really so. When the guerrilla movement emerged in the country, more specifically when the ERP emerged, most young people, and more specifically me, were looking for a democratic solution. The guerrilla movement's spirit was quite nationalistic. We advocated democracy with a nationalistic spirit. At that point, no foreign ideology was either orienting us or interfering in the domestic situation. Neither was there any Cuban influence.

In 1980 -- either at the beginning or at midyear, I am not sure which -- the Cubans began meddling in El Salvador; they began interfering in all our domestic affairs through the communist party and the FPL [Peoples Liberation Forces]. Then, without consulting the rank and file, the ERP Directorate agreed to engage in relations with the Cubans. There was an abrupt change in position without any explanations to the rank and file on the reason for this change or the fate of the position which had been supported for so many years -- our nationalism, the democratic spirit and the belief that the taking of the weapons was necessary in view of specific Salvadoran situations. The taking of weapons does not always mean that someone is a communist; that depends on the specific characteristics and problems of the country where the fighting is taking place.

So, the ERP agreed to this. It engaged in relations, and when the intermediate ranks and the rank and file learned about it, a change had already been wrought. The ERP was already working with the Cubans and consulting with them on the situation. Coordination already existed with the DRU [Unified Revolutionary Directorate] at this point.

Other things gradually convinced me that this situation was pointless. The guerrilla movement has been losing the people's support. For some time, prior to 1980, there was much popular support, but the paths were closed. In other words, there was political repression, persecution of the church and many other negative aspects fostered by rightist officials and the paramilitary organizations. There was much popular support at the time, but this was gradually lost afterward. It is now evident that after 3 years of civil war, the guerrilla movement is now alone. I have confirmed this with the various guerrilla fronts. The groups are alone. They are a guerrilla army fighting alone, and no guerrilla group, regardless of its ideology, can win by itself. It must have the support of the various sectors which are interested in change. In view of this, I think that they no longer stand a chance of winning.

[Question] Obtaining power was the guerrilla's goal, that which kept you and your companeros fighting in the guerrilla movement for so many years. In other words, let us fight, let us struggle, let us destabilize, so that we, the ones fighting, can obtain power. Is this really the objective?

[Answer] There is a difference there. The FMLN directing bodies are quite aware of this matter of power and of what they seek. This is precisely why they have allied themselves with the Cubans and the Nicaraguans. The term power has been distorted. When the struggle began, our nationalistic spirit was concerned with other aspects. We were concerned with democratic aspects, with the establishment of a politically pluralist society in which the sectors that for many years had been excluded could participate. We wanted a de jure state, where there would be freedoms, more social justice, respect for freedom of expression, respect for the church, etc. Obviously, we also wanted in-depth transformations in the economic structures because there are many old problems in that area.

These transformations did not necessarily mean absolute power; it all depends on how you interpret this. I think there has been a distortion of what is meant by power. The FMLN Directorate does interpret it in the sense of absolute power -- like in Nicaragua, where there appears to be pluralism, but all the freedoms initially granted have been subsequently undermined. The original alliances were also eliminated later, for they were used only as a means of achieving an objective.

The guerrilla ranks are very tired already, after 3 years of civil war. However, the manipulation by the FMLN Directorate is very different. They very clearly interpret power the way I was describing it, Nicaragua-style power.

[Question] How did you leave the guerrillas? How did that come about?

[Answer] My leaving the guerrillas was somewhat complicated. I was captured in Honduras by the Honduran authorities.

[Question] Excuse me, you said in Honduras, but aren't we talking about El Salvador? In Honduras?

[Answer] Yes, in Honduras.

[Question] So what were you, a Salvadoran guerrilla, doing in Honduras?

[Answer] I would usually go from El Salvador to Honduras only as a means of getting to Managua. I had been summoned to Managua to receive instructions, I believe, on how to continue to run things inside the country. I may have also been summoned because of some criticism I had voiced earlier about the conduct of the situation and the military methods employed, which were not advisable. I had also expressed some criticism about the people's support.

This is why I was in Honduras when, along with several companeros, I was captured and later deported to El Salvador.

Back in El Salvador, the amnesty situation was resolved and an alternative was visualized. I felt supported and was able to express certain views which I had been afraid to express while still in the rebel ranks. I was a timid dissident while in the rebel movement. I was timid then because I lacked real possibilities and because, due to my place in the command structure at the time, I might have been subjected to many situations.

Since being given the amnesty, and with the support of certain Salvadoran sectors, I have become a political dissident with freedom to act. I could not do this while inside the movement because there were many pressures and the appropriate channels had not been established to allow me to express these views.

I would have probably abandoned the guerrillas at some point anyway, and if my views had been echoed by the FMLN rank and file, I would have probably organized an internal opposition group in an effort to change things. But I was very demoralized with the situation already. I felt that not even by creating a strong opposition movement within the FMLN would I be able to change the situation, especially because the Cubans were already deeply involved and were practically directing the five FMLN commanders.

HAVANA INTERVIEWS FMLN-FDR'S SAMAYOA IN INDIA

PA132047 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Mar 83

[Pedro Martinez Pierz interview with Salvador Samayoa, FMLN-FDR Political Committee member, in New Delhi, India, on 12 March 1983 -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Are you feeling satisfied this morning with the results of this nonaligned summit meeting?

[Answer] Yes, very satisfied. It has certainly been another point gained in the foreign front and in the diplomatic area by our people, who are struggling heroically in the fields of El Salvador.

[Question] How about the support given the Salvadoran people's cause by the leaders of Nicaragua, Cuba, Grenada, Ethiopia and many other nations at this summit?

[Answer] I have noted the solid, firm, united support, support by consensus from the entire Latin American and Caribbean group, which has recognized the nature of our crisis and the economic and social inequalities, has acknowledged that our people's cause is just and that the U.S. military intervention in our people's war of liberation is censurable and has noted with great concern the Reagan administration's latest efforts to increase the number of military advisers in and the military aid for El Salvador. There has been a very clear denunciation of the United States, recognition of the FMLN-FDR as a representative force. A proposal for political dialogue has been made, approvingly welcomed by the international community and the Nonaligned Movement.

[Question] The Salvadoran Government has observer status within the Nonaligned Movement. Do you believe that your group will someday be the Salvadoran people's legitimate representatives, with full membership in the Nonaligned Movement?

[Answer] We are our people's legitimate representatives. We already are; the government is not. In any case, as far as legal status is concerned, there is no doubt that the democratic revolutionary government of El Salvador will be a full member of the movement as the Salvadoran people's representative at the next nonaligned summit.

[Question] How many countries have links or relations with the FDR and the FMLN?

[Answer] We have constant, systematic relations at the highest level, that of head of state or foreign minister, with over 50 countries in the international community, with most or practically all countries in Western Europe, Latin America and Africa, especially the frontline countries, and also with some Asian countries in the last few months.

[Question] For a while, it was said that there was a certain balance, from the military viewpoint, between the regime's forces and those of the guerrillas. Do you believe that this balance has now shifted in your favor?

[Answer] Definitely. The Salvadoran Government's genocidal Army has lost both the strategic and the tactical initiative militarily. It is slowly concentrating all of its small and medium positions at its central garrisons, deep in its rearguard, and we are therefore able to control a greater amount of territory. We are inflicting great defeats on the Army both militarily and politically.

Our policy of respect for the lives of prisoners of war and our decision to return them to the Red Cross has been devastating to the enemy Army's morale. Increasing numbers of Army units surrender during our attacks because they know that their lives will be respected.

Beyond this, we are involved in a plan for the accelerated recovery of infantry and artillery weapons from the enemy Army in combat.

We recovered a very large quantity of weapons in the first 2 months of this year. Of course, this strengthens the FMLN's firepower and enhances its prospects for development and deepening the strategy of continuous offense.

[Question] Salvador, could you give us some information that indicates how much direct U.S. military intervention there is in your country?

[Answer] The United States says officially that it has 55 advisers in El Salvador. This constitutes more than 10 percent of the total number of Salvadoran Armed Forces officers. This means that over 10 percent of the officers who are conducting the war against our people are U.S. citizens. This is an eloquent and clear sign of the U.S. military intervention in El Salvador.

In addition, all of the Salvadoran Army's weapons, ammunition and military supplies come from the United States, to the extent that without U.S. economic and military aid the regime could not sustain itself for even a month.

[Question] Do you believe that there is still a possibility of a negotiated political solution for the situation in El Salvador?

[Answer] The possibility always exists. We have to regret the stand taken by the U.S. Administration in the last 10 days. It has assumed truly aggressive positions instead of opening itself to the possibility of dialogue or negotiation.

[Question] Samayoa, Radio Havana Cuba is heard in El Salvador. Would you like to take this opportunity to address the Salvadoran people from here, in New Delhi, the capital of India?

[Answer] To all of our people and especially to all of our fighters and our revolutionary mass organizations. The struggle that we are waging abroad is vitally important in ending imperialism's massive intervention and in winning political, economic and moral support from the world's peoples and governments, support that is completely necessary for the heroic struggle that the fighters and the popular masses are waging inside our country.

HAVANA NOTES WIDESPREAD POWER OUTAGES, SABOTAGE

PA150216 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] A number of acts of sabotage staged by Salvadoran guerrilla groups practically blacked out the entire country for nearly 4 hours, according to information from San Salvador. The power outages were produced by cutting the high voltage lines in the northern part of Chalatenango Department.

A spokesman of the Lempa Hydroelectric Executive Commission, which supplies most of the energy throughout the nation, admitted the possibility that the guerrillas had sabotaged the lines.

The FMLN announced a planned increase in its sabotage actions against power supply systems and transportation last week. Within these operations, rebel groups destroyed four trucks in the city of Santa Ana and set fire to a locomotive after intercepting a passenger train in the community of Apopa, 18 km from the Salvadoran capital.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Fighting in San Vicente

PA151630 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] We welcome the rifles sent by Mr Reagan to the dictatorship. Thirty new U.S.-made rifles have been seized by our forces in San Vicente. Preliminary reports sent by the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front say that at 0100 on 14 March FMLN forces started an annihilation operation against the positions of the 5th Infantry Brigade located in San Rafael-San Diego canton, at the place known as (Cruz Verde), 200 meters from the Injiboa sugarmill, on the San Vicente-Tecoluca highway.

Preliminary reports received by Radio Venceremos concerning this new victory cite the capture of a 90-mm cannon with 20 rounds, 30 U.S.-made M-16 rifles; 1 TRC-77 military radio; and a large amount of ammunition and materiel. Four members of the dictatorship's army have been killed. So far, we have taken seven prisoners of war, including a cadet lieutenant whose name will be revealed in upcoming broadcasts. We will also provide complete information about this action, which took place in San Vicente Department under the leadership of Companero (Douglas). This information has been sent by Commander (Milton) from the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front.

Colonel Castillo Statement

PA112222 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 11 Mar 83

["First of several statements" by Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo, former deputy defense minister, captured by FMLN forces on 17 June 1982 in Morazan Department; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] I wish to make clear that I am still a prisoner of the guerrillas, that I am still a member of the armed forces, but I think it is fair to allow the people and my brothers in arms to listen to my analysis after having spent 9 months here.

I now better understand many things I did not understand before. When I was captured by the guerrillas, I thought they were going to kill me, but the guerrillas do not act that way with prisoners. I logically thought that the guerrillas were going to ask the government to release some of their companeros in exchange for my freedom. I was certain that the high command and the government would accept the exchange. Later I learned the truth.

Through the International Red Cross I contacted my family and from the letters I received I realized that General Garcia and Colonel Flores Lima were lying to my family. General Garcia practically closed the case when he refused to make the exchange. I still do not understand why it was not done. The exchange of prisoners is normal in all wars. Well, General Garcia was never in favor of taking prisoners from the guerrillas. Only when the number of prisoners was too high did he accept prisoners of war, because the reaction in the garrisons were becoming very negative.

Another idea spread in the armed forces is that Cubans, Nicaraguans and even Soviets are fighting in the guerrillas. In all the time I have been here I have not seen one Cuban or Nicaraguan, much less a Soviet. I have seen doctors and newsmen of other nationalities, such as Cubans and Venezuelans. What I have seen are thousands of peasants, students, workers and even some Salvadoran professionals.

Another factor that has led to confrontation between the armed forces and the people is the corruption in the military institution; everyone knows that corruption is almost a right assumed by the military. High command members have bank accounts abroad, General Garcia included. Some military officers have become landowners overnight like Col Jose Alfredo Hernandez, or industrialists as in the case of Col Arturo Armando Molina [words indistinct] arms smugglers and drug traffickers as in the case of Col (Onisifero Blandon) [words indistinct] another significant case of corruption is [words indistinct] Alvaro Magana. He is an ambitious man, who has the support of the military, because when he was president of the mortgage bank he would assume a [word indistinct] attitude toward them regarding bank loans. Fraud, repression and corruption were factors that led to the conflict that today is bleeding our beloved country.

Let us objectively analyze the war's present state. In this respect, I think I have more authority than any member of the high command to analyze the situation, because I know perfectly how the armed forces is conducting the war and I have been able to observe, despite my limitations as a prisoner, the war on the side of the guerrillas.

We held the thesis that the guerrillas, as well as the armed forces, would develop their fighting capacity, but that we would be at an advantage in this development. We thought that the defeat of the guerrillas was just a matter of time, but things have turned out differently. The war has gone through various stages and the army has been unable to control those stages. [passage indistinct] Each day the armed forces is losing territory, and to lose territory in a small country is to lose the ability to move. Practically, the armed forces is on the defensive. I really think the armed forces are in serious danger and that only a miracle can save it.

The army is losing more territory to the guerrillas. The armed forces is not present in many towns. Here, where I am, a total of 2,200 square km is controlled by the subversives. Every day the guerrilla operations are nearer to San Francisco Gotera. That is how it happened in Usulután. They began occupying small villages until they reached their main objective, which was Berlin. The FMLN is supplying itself more each day from the armed forces. All the guerrillas' artillery has been seized from the army, while the armed forces increasingly depends on the million of dollars supplied by the United States, which has led to direct U.S. involvement. [passage indistinct]

The armed forces only has for survival the special battalions and these are being annihilated. They are in constant action. They cannot control the territory we have lost. The forces are demoralized and the special battalions are worn out, suffering many casualties. On the other hand, the guerrilla forces have increased rapidly. I insist that the armed forces is in serious danger.

The FMLN can win the war. The prestige of the armed forces is in danger! I know there are good and responsible elements in the armed forces who can play an important role to prevent [words indistinct]. The situation of the armed forces is most unfortunate [word indistinct]. For the armed forces the solution is not in continuing the war, nor in the elections. The armed forces was not formed to have hundreds of soldiers and officers die defending the interests of the well-to-do families, nor those of the United States.

Companeros, this war will lead to the country's destruction; worse, this conflict can become the starting point of an international conflict of serious consequences.

GUATEMALA

ENVOY TO VATICAN SACKED OVER POPE'S REQUEST

NC151519 Paris AFP in English 1455 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Vatican City, March 15 (AFP) -- The Guatemalan ambassador here has been sacked for allegedly being late in relaying to his government a request by Pope John Paul II to commute the death sentences of six men executed by firing squad, on the eve of the pope's official visit to the Central American country.

Luis Valladares y Aycinena told AFP here today that he had received two letters Friday from his government -- one accusing him of the delay, the other informing him that his functions as ambassador here would cease on April 1.

The ambassador -- aged 79 and the dean of the diplomatic corps here, where he has served since 1966 -- denied that he was late in transmitting to Guatemala City the pope's request for a stay of execution.

He said he would sue Guatemalan Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo Arriola for having used slanderous terms in the letter informing him that he had been fired.

The letter said the ambassador's action had caused "deep disgust and countless problems" in the Guatemalan Government.

Mr Valladares showed AFP an official letter he had written to his ministry on February 21, recounting how Archbishop Achille Silvestrini, secretary of the Vatican's Public Relations Council, had shown him a handwritten note by John Paul II, asking for the death sentences on the six men to be commuted.

The ambassador said his three sons in Guatemala followed the progress of the registered letter, which arrived at the Guatemala city post office on February 28.

It was given to a mailman on March 1 and handed to the Foreign Minister on March 2 -- the day before the executions.

"I had already telephoned the ministry on February 24 and tried to talk to the minister," the ambassador said. "He was not available, but my secretary relayed the pope's request to the vice-minister, Edgar Sarceno."

Mr Sarceno replied that he had had dinner with the papal nuncio in Guatemala City on February 23, and had complained of a broadcast on Vatican radio criticizing the Guatemalan Army and government.

The vice-minister also said that a first request for the executions to be commuted had been relayed by the nuncio on February 18.

Asked why he had sent the request by registered mail rather than by cable, the ambassador said: "I had sent a coded telex message a few days earlier, officially announcing the pope's visit, but the ministry called back and said they could not decode the cable."

U.S. CONCERN OVER DEATH OF AID WORKERS NOTED

PA142328 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Mar 83

[Text] The U.S. State Department has expressed concern over the recent murder of four employees of a U.S. Government agency in Guatemala and has asked Gen Efraim Rios Montt's regime for guarantees for persons employed either directly or indirectly by the U.S. Government, so that they can go about their duties safely.

The request, passed through diplomatic channels, was prompted by the death of four Guatemalans who worked for AID. The Guatemalan regime admitted last Tuesday that they were killed while trying to escape following their arrest by a military patrol.

International organizations and religious leaders have accused the Rios Montt regime of violating human rights and of massacring the Guatemalan people. Even so, the Reagan Administration, in order to justify a resumed arms supply to the dictatorial regime, continues to hold that the human rights situation in Guatemala has improved since March 1982, when Rios Montt seized power.

GUERRILLA MILITANT INTERVIEWED ON ACTIVITIES

PY151135 Lima EL DIARIO DE MARKA in Spanish 26 Feb 83 p 8, 9

[Interview by Pepe Mejia of Guerrilla Army of the Poor, EGP, member Elias Barahona Barahona, former press and public relations secretary of the Interior Ministry under the Lucas Garcia administration and former member of the Guatemalan Press Association Executive Board, on 30 January 1983 in Madrid, Spain]

[Text] [Question] What was your job in the Interior Ministry under the Lucas Garcia administration?

[Answer] My instructions were to infiltrate deep into the nerve center of the enemy's intelligence. In this regard, the best cover was my profession. My job was to gain the confidence of the minister.

[Question] How does the government carry out counterpropaganda?

[Answer] Military intelligence keeps a detailed record of every journalist. Threats, kidnapping, blackmail and also murder are used. These were the methods used.

[Question] In addition to these clearly brutal methods, were there other methods?

[Answer] Let us recall that Guatemala has become a large laboratory for the Americans to test counterinsurgency techniques. In this regard, psychological warfare has been used. This is closely related to terror, as a government method. Telephone threats and the discovery of bodies served as lessons. This, in conjunction with misinformation, is manipulated and distorted and the information to all the media is strictly controlled. The Public Relations Secretariat of the presidency is in charge of this control with the backing of the repressive apparatus, starting in January of this year, the questions asked by journalists must first be sent in writing and the government decides whether they should be answered or not. It has even been reported that starting today the guerrilla fighters will be called "subversives." It is prohibited to mention the name of armed organizations.

[Question] How did the government treat foreign correspondents?

[Answer] They are controlled, others are repressed. They have also received threats and beatings. They are prevented from getting any information outside official reports. In this regard, there is self-censorship due to fear.

[Question] What is the relationship between the parliamentary groups and the government?

[Answer] The paramilitary groups are secretly organized within the government with human, technical and economic resources of the state. When the minister told me that the death squad and the anti-communist secret army had to be revived, it proved that he thought that I already knew the groups were government sponsored. But in reality I did not know it. The list of those sentenced to death was written on stationery with letterheads printed in the Army print shop.

[Question] How did you they get the names of the labor leaders?

[Answer] From the Union Department of the Labor Ministry. They also got the names from the Coordinating Board of Agriculture, Commercial and Financial Associations (CACYF), the cream of the private sector. I once attended a very private party among servicemen and businessmen. The general director of the national police, German Chupina, was there. Businessmen came to him saying; "Colonel, look there are some boys in the factory who are creating a lot of problems." Chupina said: "do not complicate things, do not beat around the bush; names, names." They were dead the following day.

[Question] Who commits these murders. Are they military on active duty, plainclothes policemen? Who are they?

[Answer] They are from the anti-communist secret army, which is managed by the Army G-2. They are officers on the government payroll and personnel labeled as specialists who have no military rank. The instructions are passed on through American, Israeli, Argentine, Chilean and Uruguayan experts and technicians.

[Question] During your speech at the People's Standing Tribunal, you said you met Rios Montt, the current president. Can you give us details?

[Answer] The first time I saw Rios Montt was when he was directing what has been called the San Cilsay massacre, about mid-1973. He was directing the operation with several helicopter gunships that were firing at a community known as the Jalapa mountain dwellers. I was covering the information as a reporter for EL IMPARCIAL.

[Question] In your speech before the People's Standing Tribunal you referred to the counterinsurgency handbook. Could you elaborate on it further?

[Answer] The main objective of the handbook is to provide full information about Guatemala and to compare that information with available data from other countries. The handbook outlines a two-phase program. The first phase consists of pacification and eradication of communism, based on the theory of extremism, namely, that underground extremist movements fight and destroy each other, although it is actually the government that does the job. But the government appears before the public as if it were making efforts to achieve peace through calls for national reconciliation. In this way, all opposition can be quashed, first through selecting and later through massive repression. In the second phase, which consists of civil war, the government seeks to make guerrillas appear as if they were killing the people and the people defending themselves. Efforts are made to make the image of the army appear untarnished in the eyes of the world public.

The existence of civilian patrols or guerrilla gangs -- people who dress like peasants and who arrive in small villages, shout revolutionary slogans and kill everybody -- can thus be understood. This process requires a great deal of disinformation, of psychological warfare.

[Question] And who gave that handbook to the interior minister?

[Answer] It was handed over by U.S.DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) agent Jiam Daniels [name as published], whose post was merely a cover. There are DEA agents in all Latin American countries, where they often provide a cover for the CIA.

[Question] What are U.S. Protestant pastors doing in Guatemala?

[Answer] Look, U.S. missionaries -- who are mainly fundamentalists -- started arriving shortly after the first partial defeat of the revolutionary movement. They went to the western plateau, where the majority of the Indian population lives and where anthropological, geographic and sociological research has already been carried out. Behind a religious facade, they indoctrinate peasants against communism, following the ideology of the U.S. new right, which is called the Moral Majority. This is intimately linked to the plans the Pentagon has designed for Guatemala in keeping with U.S. strategic and geopolitical interests. Look, the Spanish priests, who follow the teachings of Puebla and Medellin, who stick to the theory of liberation, have been convinced by the environment and by the social reality. U.S. pastors have been able to counteract the presence of the Catholic Church. The majority of the originally Catholic Guatemalan officials who travel to the United States to take courses renounce their religion and join those sects, like the Divine Word Church, whose doctrine places great emphasis on national security. To kill communists is not a sin, they claim. As Pat Robertson -- one of the top Divine Word Church leaders -- said in the United States, most of the Guatemalan officers who are Divine Word pastors work jointly with the State Department.

[Question] Do you have evidence that Guatemalan military officers have direct participation in private corporations? How do they participate?

[Answer] Many of them have investments in private corporations. The military became interested in private corporations at the time they were monopolies, as in the case of beer and cement. They acted like gangsters, kidnapping relatives of monopoly owners who refused to sell their stocks. In addition, corruption has prevailed.

[Question] How is military aid channeled to Guatemala?

[Answer] U.S. military aid comes through disguised channels, as is revealed by much information released since 1976 under the Carter administration. Since the United States cannot help directly, it makes use of Israel. The rifles traditionally used by the army have become "Galils." The air force has begun using "Aravas" and "Uzis," which reveals the adoption of more advanced technology. The government has made use of an Israeli weapon manufacturing plant. The office of the representative of Israel's largest weapons manufacturer for Central America is located in a hotel close to the Camino Real.

[Question] Where were you when the Spanish Embassy in Guatemala was attacked 2 years ago?

[Answer] I was with Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdes, Interior Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz and Presidential Press Secretary Carlos Toledo. A group of peasants seized the embassy after the government refused to hear their protest against the first massacres in the highlands.

Nobody listened to them. Joined by workers, peasants and students, the group went to the Spanish Embassy and told the ambassador why they were there. As soon as the embassy was occupied, the interior minister said that it was seized by guerrillas. But two former high-ranking government officials happened to be among the peasants and, therefore, President Lucas Garcia had to be consulted. He had already remarked that no center of agitation should be allowed to grow anywhere at any time. The president said that the peasants had to be removed. When he was told about the two former government officials, he replied: "It does not matter. They must be removed at any rate." Then police burst into the embassy and set it on fire.

[Question] Right, and then they put the blame on an official who died and who, they claimed, had called up asking for the intervention of the security forces...

[Answer] Yes, they even laughed at the brilliant idea they had.

[Question] What is the situation of the refugees?

[Answer] It is painfully serious. There are over 1 million refugees in our own country who survived massacres. After the army arrived in their towns they manage to escape to the mountains, where they stay for some months. Then they have to surrender and they are interned in the famous "strategic hamlets," which are concentration camps. But there are thousands and thousands who are still wandering, because their houses and their farms have been destroyed by the "scorched earth" policy followed by the military. The UN High Commission for Refugees has reported that an average of four refugees die every day in every camp.

[Question] What is your opinion of the sessions held by the People's Standing Tribunal after it became aware of the situation in Guatemala?

[Answer] I am deeply impressed by the scientific and moral qualification of tribunal members, by the capacity of the organizers and by the cause they embraced in their determination to disclose what is happening in Guatemala to a shocked international public. I believe that it is a very important step in the struggle being waged by the Guatemalan people, and that it will yield positive results in the sense that the Guatemalan situation, depicted in its real magnitude, will awaken international solidarity.

[Question] When do you believe a revolution is politically necessary?

[Answer] If the people of a nation with vast natural and human resources are starving, if they do not have access to decent housing, education and health care, then all that means that wealth has been improperly distributed, that a privileged minority is accumulating wealth. Everybody knows that such a state of affairs cannot persist and that a confrontation between the large neglected majority and the small group that accumulates wealth is inevitable. In recent times, those privileged minorities have made no efforts to cope with the problem either through reforms or development. Instead, they have resorted to naked repression in an attempt to change the situation. They have forced the people to resort to the armed struggle. There has been no chance for either dialogue or negotiation. I am sure that, sooner or later, the people will win, not only in Guatemala but also all over Latin America. I believe that both the Salvadoran and the Guatemalan liberation movements are in a way the flame that will spark the great Latin American revolution. These are irreversible processes. Human beings cannot die without struggling.

HONDURASDEFENSE MINISTER WARNS OF SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY

PA160320 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1528 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Honduran Defense Minister Amilcar Castillo Suazo has warned of the danger that subversive activity could erupt at any moment. The Honduran official maintains that if the U.S. Congress fails to approve President Reagan's proposal to provide military aid to Central America, we will be prey to communism and subversion.

In an exclusive statement to this station, the defense minister cautions Hondurans to be on the alert. The subversives do not rest and could surprise us at any moment, he said. Here is the minister's statement, in a report by journalist (Trino Murillo):

[Begin recording] [Question] Colonel, at this time when the U.S. Government has announced, through its president, a plan for military aid -- specifically to El Salvador, but incidentally also to Honduras -- what is your opinion as an officer?

[Answer] The aid that President Reagan is requesting from the U.S. Congress is needed by the Central American and Caribbean Basin area. If this aid is not obtained, the influence of Russia and Cuba on the area will definitely be more obvious and in the long run, this will cause the Central American area to fall into the Soviet orbit.

[Question] Are you of the opinion that instead of weapons, there should be aid in the social sphere, or should the two things go together, Colonel?

[Answer] They should go together. The U.S. plan provides for more than just military aid. There is also a program for massive civic action, which includes the construction of schools, the development of small industry and (other infrastructures) and for an entire range of civic action activities -- destined, in other words, for the development of the most neglected areas in the Latin American countries.

[Question] Colonel, does the fact that Honduras now has a constitutional, civilian government mean that we would be in danger if at any moment the United States should withdraw its aid?

[Answer] Well, the fact that we have a democratic government gives us a great advantage over the other countries that do not have one. However, this aid is also necessary to Honduras. It is known that we have economic problems and this aid will help us solve some of them, such as unemployment. It is necessary to open up sources of employment and develop small projects that the country needs.

[Question] Commander Ortega has said in a speech that the Reagan plan in a form of hostile provocation. What is your opinion of this?

[Answer] Well, if he says so, that is his own opinion, but it should not be interpreted this way. The fact is that the United States, as I have said, is protecting its own backyard, because politically, Central America and the Caribbean are located directly within the U.S. sphere of influence. The United States is going to help El Salvador until it obtains a democratic government and peace comes to that country. That should not be interpreted as aggression.

[Question] Is Honduras in danger, in your opinion? Specifically, what is happening here in that regard, Colonel.

[Answer] Well, in the short run, the danger is not imminent, but the situation should always be taken into consideration, because we are in the affected area, the area of conflict.

[Question] What is the source of the alarming comments to the effect that we have adopted a warmongering position? As an officer who is familiar with the situation, Colonel, could you explain to the public the true situation regarding the sectors that want to destabilize the government?

[Answer] Well, that is part of their strategy: To carry out a number of activities to destabilize those countries that have managed to consolidate a democracy. They say that we have adopted an aggressive position, but the fact is that we are not capable of attacking any country. We are a small country that is not capable. I think that this idea should be struck from the minds of all Hondurans and all Central Americans, because it is being used as a means to try to destabilize us, not only domestically, but also at the international level. I think it is unjust to continue the campaign of misinformation and discredit, because we Hondurans will never indulge in an act of aggression, since we do not have the means, the resources or the ability.

[Question] Is subversion in Honduras under control, Colonel?

[Answer] Apparently. One cannot say for sure where subversion is concerned. Things might appear calm, but those people are always active, always working and that is why we have to be on the alert and not be overconfident, because the subversives are active and they will strike at us when we least expect it. [end recording]

PRESIDENT CONFIRMS ECONOMY SECRETARY IN POST

PA122143 Tegucigalpa LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Mar 83 p 5

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa -- Economy Secretary Gustavo Alfaro Zelaya [as published] has been confirmed in his post by President Roberto Suazo Cordova, who has now completed his government team for the current year.

Alfaro presented his resignation in December 1982 to give the president the opportunity to restructure his cabinet. However, only the defense and public health secretaries were changed.

According to what LA PRENSA has been told, Alfaro will remain indefinitely in his post as a result, perhaps, of suggestions made by the business sector at a recent meeting between President Suazo Cordova and the Honduran Private Enterprise Council.

MONCE, HERRERA EXPECTED TO ATTEND PEACE FORUM

PA121603 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 11 Mar 83 p 3

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge and Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins have confirmed their attendance at the great forum for peace that will be held in this capital in late March.

The source consulted said that the two presidents have agreed to attend the 2-day minisummit that will be held in Tegucigalpa. During the meeting rules to improve the relations among the Central American countries will be established.

The forum to improve the situation of the relations among the countries is part of the plan to internationalize peace currently promoted by the Honduran Government.

Solution to the tense situations that have existed in the Central American region for the past years will be sought during the forum based on the recommendations made by several Latin American presidents who have met to discuss the situation and have expressed that they are concerned over these interrelations.

The agenda for the forum has not been made public. However, the basic subject to be discussed will be the improvement of the climate in the region, especially between Nicaragua and its neighbors.

Information on the two presidents' attendance will be officially announced next week.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA URGES INTENSIFICATION OF DEFENSE TASKS

PA141741 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega has called in Managua for a reinforcement of the Sandinist Armed Forces, in view of the new threats issued by U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

During a tour of a Sandinist people's militia instruction center, Ortega added that Reagan has reiterated his warmongering positions and that the activities of the Somoquist bands that operate on the Honduran border have been stepped up in recent weeks. For this reason, Ortega said, defense tasks must be intensified. The Sandinist leader stressed that in spite of this Nicaragua will continue its struggle for peace while seeking a political solution to the Central American conflicts.

SERGIO RAMIREZ STRESSES FRIENDSHIP WITH CUBA

PA151821 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Sergio Ramirez, a member of Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has said that the U.S. Government will not be able to prevent the development of fraternal relations between his country and Cuba.

The Sandinist leader addressed an event held to dedicate three secondary schools built by Cuban workers in Chinandega Department.

Ramirez stressed that the Cuban and Nicaraguan peoples will strengthen their solidarity and friendship despite the blackmail and threats to which Yankee imperialism resorts in an effort to isolate the two countries. He added that the so-called Cuban interference in Nicaragua's affairs to which U.S. propaganda so often refers in reality takes the form of 2,000 teachers, almost 1,000 doctors and hundreds of technicians who give their unselfish aid to the Nicaraguan people.

MINISTER D'ESCOTO DEFENDS REVOLUTION'S RECORD

PM141515 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 10 Mar 83 p 9

[Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto undated interview with Gunnar Selgard: "The United States Is Doing All It Can to Halt the Revolution"]

[Text] Managua -- "As long as the U.S. administration thinks it can halt and turn the revolutionary process here in Nicaragua, the situation will be especially sensitive and serious for us. The Reagan administration and the refugee Somoza supporters in Honduras are working to a definite plan to destabilize the situation in Nicaragua."

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto said this in an interview with AFTERPOSTEN. He is one of the five priests with prominent positions in the Sandinist regime who have ignored the Vatican's request not to fill political posts. At the Foreign Ministry the minister is known as Father d'Escoto.

"First the Reagan administration was chiefly concerned about the situation in El Salvador, where the incumbent government is only able to remain in power through U.S. aid," d'Escoto said. "But about a year ago the Americans discovered that the situation there had stagnated in many ways. Since then Nicaragua has been the main target for their activities."

d'Escoto claimed that the Reagan administration is working from a carefully prepared plan designed to hit all sides of Nicaraguan society. Honduras has been transformed into a base for these activities. In many ways Honduras is today playing the same role that Nicaragua played under Somoza. Remember that it was in Nicaragua that the failed CIA-backed invasion attempt on Cuba's Bay of Pigs began.

[Question] But democratically-minded Nicaraguans like revolutionary hero Eden Pastora and former junta member Alfonso Robelo want to see a Nicaragua different from the one which the Sandinists are in the process of constructing. How much support do they have?

[Answer] Well, people who want to stop the revolutionary process are prepared to listen to them, but I do not think that they are very numerous. It is correct that Pastora was a hero, but people also know that he could be a traitor. Our revolution has its Judas just as our lord had his. [answer ends]

d'Escoto said that Pastora betrayed the revolution because he felt that he was not receiving the recognition he deserved. "I spoke to him on the telephone a few days ago. He rang me from Costa Rica and I told him that at this crucial time in our country's history you are either against the people or for them."

The foreign minister reminded me that, when Pastora left, he said not that he was abandoning the revolution but that he was going to help other peoples in Latin America to fight for their freedom. He wanted to be a new Che Guevara, but a few months later he joined the fold of opponents.

d'Escoto said that it is impossible to separate the opposition which Pastora and Robelo pursue from Costa Rica and what is happening in Honduras today. They may have different points of departure for their opposition activities, but they help each other and give each other support as long as their joint goal is to topple the regime.

The foreign minister admitted that some criticism can be leveled against the first phase of the resettlement of the Miskito Indians in the north of the country. But this resettlement was not carried out with as much force as has sometimes been claimed. The mistake was that it happened too quickly. Greater attention should have been paid to explaining the necessity of resettlement of the Miskito. We know that the Miskito themselves later asked to be moved because of the danger to their lives to which they are exposed close to the border with Honduras.

[Question] How many Cubans and Russians are there in Nicaragua as advisers and helpers?

[Answer] We have a little over 2,000 Cubans, the majority of them teachers and health personnel. There are only a few Russians, and we have more of other nationalities -- Americans, for example. Several Americans work in my own ministry. Remember that many members of the old bureaucracy left after the revolution. We are a country with a low educational level and we needed outside help. [answer ends]

D'Escoto told me that a special appeal was made to Spanish-speaking countries for help in the form of experts and personnel of various types. "A Venezuelan once asked me why there were so many Cubans here," D'Escoto said. "I answered that he ought to be asking why there were not more Venezuelans here, why they did not respond as generously to our appeal as the Cubans did."

PEACE CONFERENCE TO BE HELD 21-23 APRIL

PA141956 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Mar 83

[Text] Hundreds of delegates from peace organizations and personalities of world renown will participate in first regional conference for peace, to be held in Managua in April.

The event will be sponsored by the Nicaraguan Peace Committee, Conipaz. Delegates will analyze the Central American and Caribbean conflict, as well as the U.S. aggressive policy in the area, particularly against the revolutionary processes of Cuba, Grenada, Nicaragua and Suriname.

The meeting will be held 21-23 April. Other subjects that will be analyzed at the meeting will be the utilization of communications media in the region, the violation of human rights, particularly in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, and the manipulation of religion.

WPC chairman Romesh Chandra, FRG clergyman (Conrad Lubert), literature Nobelists Gabriel Garcia Marquez, former presidents of Venezuela Carlos Andres Perez and of Costa Rica Jose Figueres, and representatives of the South-West African People's Organization will participate in the meeting.

SOVIET UNION TO DONATE FLOATING DRYDOCK

PA160035 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 10 May 83 p 5

[Text] San Juan del Sur (Eragu) [not further identified] -- A floating drydock donated by the Soviet Union to Nicaragua under a policy of service and technic cooperation with our nation is scheduled to arrive at this port in June.

The drydock, currently undergoing repairs in Spain, will be brought by a large delegation of Soviet technicians who will train approximately 100 people to handle it after it is installed.

The port administration reported through Demetrio Munoz that due to the size of dock, small and oceangoing ships can be repaired in it simultaneously.

Munoz said that the drydock will be 3 miles off this port and is expected to service ships of fairly large draft.

The Soviets will provide free technical service for the dock for a period of 7 to 10 years, that is, long enough for Nicaraguans to learn to handle it.

The Soviet delegation, including 10 families, that will come here to cooperate with the revolution will stay at the Hotel Barlovento during its stay in Nicaragua.

For this purpose, the National Ports Enterprise will revamp the abandoned hotel at a cost of 5 million cordovas under an agreement with the Nicaraguan Tourism Institute, which administers these installations.

EDEN PASTORA DENOUNCES FSLN 'DEVIATIONS'

PA121728 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 12 Mar 83

[News conference by Commander Eden Pastora Gomez, leader of the Sandino Revolutionary Front, in Costa Rica, date not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Pastora] The Interior Ministry forces, led by Tomas Borge, include a special force trained in Cuba which is sent to the wilds, to the rural areas, to the mountains, posing as counterrevolutionary bands. This is a Cuban technique.

We will denounce a recent development: As the date of the pope's arrival in Nicaragua approached, the FSLN National Directorate -- manipulating the martyrs, making business with our Nicaraguan blood, trafficking with the Nicaraguan people's blood -- needed to present a certain number of martyrs to the world and to the pontiff. It ordered one of these bands to kill the young militiamen. So 19 militiamen who were almost children, many of them not over 16 years of age, were killed. Those of us who have fought in a war know that in order for there to be 19 dead in a battle, there must be 100 wounded. And in order for there to be 100 wounded and 19 dead, which would total between 120 and 150 casualties, some 300 to 400 men would have to be fighting on one side and a similar number on the other side. So these 19 children who died were killed by one of the bands led by Borge. This crime must be denounced to the world: This is how the FSLN directorate trafficks in our people's blood.

A situation is currently taking place in southern Nicaragua, in the San Juan River area. We want to denounce this situation to the world, to the Sandinist peoples militia, to the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS], to the mothers of our militiamen. The National Directorate presumes that we are organized and up in arms along the San Juan River on the Nicaraguan border and that we have between 1,500 and 2,000 men. This is a National Directorate supposition. So the Directorate has sent a trawler carrying 200 militiamen to sail up and down the San Juan River. This is a bait that the Directorate has put there for us, to make the Nicaraguan people, the militiamen, our peasants, workers, students and professionals believe that we are killing students, militiamen or EPS members. We have no armed men; neither will we take that bait. However, we will denounce the danger that, faced with the failure to make us fall into this trap, the National Directorate may provoke a massacre like the one they provoked in Rio Blanco; they may send in a patrol to ambush the trawler with the 200 militiamen and kill 100 or 200 militiamen. This might then be presented to the world as if we, the true Sandinists, the members of the Sandino Revolutionary Front and the companeros who have united to form ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] had perpetrated this massacre. Furthermore, a political problem would thus be created for Costa Rica. We have already denounced this situation -- which might take place any moment and which makes our hair stand on end -- to the Costa Rican authorities.

If you would like to ask any questions now in order to dispel any doubt, we are willing to answer them with our usual sincerity and frankness, with love for our homeland, our people and our traditions. First, however, I would like to say that on 15 April, on the first anniversary of our having denounced to the world the Directorate's political and moral deviations, a year after criticizing them on serious moral grounds, a year after traveling all over the world in search of peace for Nicaragua, on 15 April we will hold a definitive news conference. I want all Nicaraguans and Costa Ricans, as well as anybody who is interested in peace in Nicaragua and in our people's situation -- which is directly related to our brothers and neighbors to the north and to the south -- to know this.

[Question] Commander, when you announce that on 15 April, on the first anniversary of [words indistinct], does this mean that the civic and political struggle is [word indistinct] in order to engage in an armed struggle?

[Answer] It means that we will stop talking. [applause]

[Question] Does the fact that you will stop talking mean that you will begin operating in all areas?

[Answer] Once we stop talking, it will mean that words have become superfluous and confusing, that words are even complicating matters.

[Question] You have been traveling to Venezuela and Europe and have been meeting with the political leaders of several Latin American and European nations. You have been explaining and airing your views about today's Nicaragua. What has the response of these political leaders been, for instance those of social democratic persuasion, or those in Latin America, upon hearing [words indistinct]?

[Answer] Your question is interesting. We have traversed the world in search of peace and to propose solutions leading to peace not only in Nicaragua, but in Central America as a whole and in El Salvador, because peace won't be achieved in El Salvador, unless one goes through Nicaragua first. Peace in El Salvador is closely connected with peace in Nicaragua.

We have noticed great fear of the threat north of Nicaragua, at the Honduran border makes democratic forces, such as those in Venezuela, Mexico, the Dominican Republic and the Socialist International in Europe take a timid position, fearful of any decision-making on Nicaragua. This is doing the FSLN Directorate a great favor, this presence of the Somozist guardsmen. For example, the Somozist guardsmen's presence allows the FSLN Directorate to take to Nicaragua the representatives of one-third of the world, as there are five foreign ministers in Nicaragua. [sentence as heard] This situation leads us to comment that with its stupidities and imbecilities the FSLN Directorate is doing everything in its power to be overthrown, while those supporting the Somozist guardsmen are doing all in their power so the Directorate won't be overthrown. Thus we have the dialectic of extremes. The Directorate (?members) justify the mistakes of the U.S. foreign policy, of the imperialists. Meanwhile, the mistakes of the Reagan administration justify the Directorate's imbecilities.

The Nicaraguan problem is complex. The pope, the pontiff, arrived in Nicaragua and wrought a miracle, for he removed the blinders from the eyes of the many who still believed that there was political space in Nicaragua. What we could not do after 23 years of Sandinist militancy and struggle, what we could not do despite the endorsement and moral authority of 23 years of struggle, the pope did in 4 hours: He arrived, he threw [word indistinct] on the fruit and it ripened. Now everybody knows that the Directorate is imbecilic.

BRIEFS

PCD POLITICAL SECRETARY -- Alejo Mendieta was elected as the new political secretary of the Democratic Conservative Party, PCD, at the party's plenary assembly on 26 February. Mendieta replaces Adolfo Calero Portocarrero. [Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Feb 83 p 12 PA]

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH BULGARIA -- Bulgaria and Nicaragua have signed a trade and technical and financial aid agreement involving \$165 million over the next 3 years. Nicaragua will sell \$38 million worth of coffee, lumber, cotton and lead concentrate. Bulgaria will provide technical and financial aid for the construction of a deep-sea port on Nicaragua's Atlantic coast. [Text] [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Mar 83 PA]

HAVANA CRITICIZES REAGAN'S EL SALVADOR POLICY

PA142157 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Mar 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpt] U.S. President Ronald Reagan's language grows harsher and more aggressive every day as he discussed the Central American situation, particularly El Salvador. Only a few weeks ago, he warned that only the force of arms could solve the Salvadoran political crisis. In that context, he expressed his determination to increase U.S. military aid to that Central American country's regime. Reagan reiterated that he refuses to seek negotiated solutions to the conflict, insisting that he will not engage in any dialogue with the Salvadoran revolutionary forces.

He made similar remarks last Thursday, while delivering a speech to a group of businessmen. Reagan requested a \$300 million increase in military and economic aid for the Central American countries, to help them fight what he termed the communist offensive. Of that \$300 million, \$110 million would be allocated to the regime in El Salvador, where, he said, the guerrillas have taken the tactical initiative at a time when the funds previously allocated by the U.S. Congress are running out. Reagan asserted that his administration would not Americanize the war in El Salvador, but he openly expressed his opposition to the formation of a coalition government with the revolutionary forces, which might put an end to the conflict.

The U.S. President added that the United States has trained only 10 percent of the Salvadoran troops to date and he said that studies are currently underway to determine the number of U.S. instructors required and the place outside El Salvador where the regime's troops will be trained.

As various Central American political circles have very accurately charged, what the U.S. Government wants to do in El Salvador is to exterminate the people. To achieve this, the United States will stop at nothing.

HAVANA ON REAGAN'S 'ANTICOMMUNIST HYSTERIA'

PA152009 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Mar 83

["Station commentary"]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has again attacked Cuba, the Soviet Union and the socialist community. His anticommunist hysteria has led him to state, as he did during his 1980 presidential campaign, that it is better to die than to be a communist. He has again accused the Soviet Union and Cuba of being mainly responsible for the very complex situation in Central America.

The Reagan government has also been circulating an extensive Pentagon document that tries to prove that the Soviet Union seeks nuclear and military superiority and that Cuba and Nicaragua are its satellites on the American Continent since they supply weapons and all kinds of support to the Salvadoran guerrillas. This hysterical attack naturally has much to do with the continuous political and diplomatic failures of the U.S. Government.

The recently concluded Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi refuted such lies and untruthful interpretations. The summit unequivocally pointed to those who are mainly responsible for the situation in Central America and the Caribbean. The Central American and Caribbean peoples support peace.

They favor a negotiated solution that will permit them access to full independence in democratic conditions. Many Latin American governments like those of Mexico, Cuba, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela have expressed their support for peace. That was the general clamor that was expressed during Pope John II's visit to Central America.

Nevertheless, Ronald Reagan wants to continue adding fuel to the fire and his aggressiveness has taken on very dangerous tones. Washington continues to be determined to give more military aid to the Salvadoran dictatorship and is applying every possible pressure to destabilize the Nicaraguan Government and to deal hard blows to the Cuban revolution.

In his speech to the plenary session of the Nonaligned Summit Conference, President Fidel Castro said that our country has had to reinforce its defenses and to train another 500,000 citizens in addition to the Revolutionary Armed Forces due to Reagan's continuous provocative threats against Cuba. These threats are echoed in different tones by Secretary of State George Shultz and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

As can be seen, the United States wants to resort to any means, including new preparations to attack Castro's life in order to punish Cuba. In this way, the imperialists are being consumed with hatred and impotence in the face of a small, hardworking, humble and honorable country. They seek to kill Cuba's example, destroy its moral strength and force our people to lower a flag that has already withstood the hostility of seven successive U.S. governments.

The illegal and criminal Yankee economic blockade against Cuba has lasted 23 years, an unprecedented event in the world. The U.S. naval base at Guantanamo continues to exist with the sole purpose of humiliating the Cuban people. But, as Fidel Castro said to the Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference, any effort will nevertheless be useless. Our revolution does not depend on men; it depends on ideas and ideas cannot be killed.

Regarding the Central American and Caribbean situation, Fidel Castro also gave a good reply to the U.S. pretensions, the highest Cuban leader said: Even though we want peace in the region and we work to that end, we will not capitulate to threats of any kind. We can assure the seventh summit, he stressed, that the Salvadoran revolutionaries cannot be militarily defeated. We can tell the summit of our conviction that Nicaragua cannot be forced to yield. We can categorically state that Cuba can be exterminated but never intimidated or defeated. Fidel Castro stressed: As we said 30 years ago, the island will sink in the sea before we consent to be anyone's slaves.

INTERNATIONAL SPECIALISTS DISCUSS U.S. POLICIES

FL151430 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Over 250 specialists in social sciences from this hemisphere and the Soviet Union have been holding interesting debates on U.S. domestic and economic policy and its influence on Latin America at Havana's Palace of Conventions.

Fernando Vecino Alegret, minister of higher education, vice ministers and Cuban scientists, attended yesterday's round table discussions, which covered a study of the power structure in the United States. That debate was based on a paper submitted by Rafael Hernandez, member of [Havana University's] Center for American Studies, which outlines the participation of financial groups in that power structure, and provides information on the links between the ruling class and the governing system in North America.

Another paper that received considerable interest was one submitted by (Faye Hansen), joint director of the U.S. Trade Union Research Association, entitled: North American Trade Unions and the Labor Movement. In her paper, (Hansen) reported that the number of trade union members in the United States dropped by almost 4 percent. She noted that 1982 trade union contracts yielded a wage increase of 3.8 percent, the lowest rate in the last 15 years. She also stressed that the U.S. labor movement rejects the policies of President Ronald Reagan.

PEREZ HERRERO ATTENDS PARTY MEETING IN MOSCOW

FL151545 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] Antonio Perez Herrero, alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo and member of the Secretariat, heads a delegation participating in the meeting of secretaries of communist and workers' parties from socialist countries under way in Moscow. The meeting is studying the current political, ideological and publicity tasks related to the international situation. The meeting is putting special emphasis on the need to form a united front in confronting the anticommunist crusade being waged by imperialist reactionaries.

MEXICAN SUGAR INDUSTRY DELEGATION ARRIVES

FL151515 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Text] A delegation from Mexico's National Sugar Industry Commission [Comision Nacional de la Industria Azucarera de Mexico] has arrived in Havana headed by Mario Barreiro Perera. The delegation was met at the airport by Diocles Torralba, minister of the sugar industry.

The Mexican delegation and Cuban officials will review and update the current agreement on sugar industry cooperation. The Mexican delegation, composed of 12 officials, will study the Cuban sugar harvest technical control system and will visit research centers and factories in our country.

CASTRO'S ACTIVITIES, SPEECHES AT NONALIGNED

For reportage on Cuban President Fidel Castro's activities and speeches at the Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference in New Delhi, see the Nonaligned Conference section of the 7 March South Asia DAILY REPORT, and subsequent issues.

GRENADABISHOP ADDRESSES RALLY ON REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

PA141221 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2240 GMT 13 Mar 83

[Speech by Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop at a rally in St Georges after a military motorcade procession around the island on the fourth anniversary of the revolution -- live]

[Excerpts] Comrades: I know that all of you know that the way in which we are now celebrating our fourth anniversary was not planned. This was not exactly what we had in mind a few months ago when we had decided that this year's fourth anniversary was going to be celebrated in a somewhat different way than usual. But the fact of the matter is that events have overtaken that decision and as a result of the recent announcement by Ronald Reagan of the United States we today had to take a decision, in the last 48 hours, [as heard] to instead do this military motorcade around our country and then to come here and say these few words.

It is very clear to us, comrades, that there are reasons why our revolution is under threat at this time. It is very clear to us that these things never happen by accident. I think it is possible for us to see basically two reasons. One, internal reasons: These have to do with the fact of the Grenada revolution; and two, external reasons, and in particular reasons to do with the fact that in the United States today, the head of that government, the president of that mighty country, is not just an ordinary human being, but a real, true-to-life fascist who does not believe that any other people have a right to exist or have a right to develop their own process.

When we look at the internal process, comrades, what comes out very clearly is that first and foremost they have to try to overturn this revolution because of the tremendous progress that the revolution has made and continues to make.

They recognize only too well the depths of unity and pride and patriotism in our people. They recognize only too well the full significance and impact of the organs of popular democracy that are being built in our country, a popular democracy that involves all of our people all of the time in running their own country and in looking after their own lives. They know that these new democratic structures are structures that have life and meaning, that they are structures that our people relate to and work out of comfortably and happily.

They recognize also, comrades, that notwithstanding their best efforts, the fact of the matter is the regional and international prestige and reputation of our revolution continues to be big, continues to get stronger every single day, notwithstanding their best attempts at trying to achieve the isolation of the Grenada revolution. Every time they try to isolate us they receive licks. Every time they work out a plan so as to try to see if they can break us out of Caricom we are able to get out of their trap and in fact to continue to build our links and relations with all of our neighbors.

One of the things that have them most worried of all is that part of their plan was to try to build a curtain around Grenada, to try to isolate us within our own borders and within our own seas. They had hoped that over the last few years would have been able to stop the people of the Caribbean and the people of the world from coming to Grenada, so that all of the lies that they spread in their newspapers and radio stations would go unanswered.

But instead of achieving that isolation, instead of burning that net around us, exactly the opposite has happened, and every month more and more of our friends are able to come to Grenada to see for themselves.

So that last August, for example, the Caribbean calypso festival brought to Grenada over 17 calypsonians from 8 different countries. Last August, too, the Caribbean [word indistinct] championship meant over 10 countries had to come here to play their [word indistinct]. And last August again we had our Grenada carnival, when hundreds of our Caribbean neighbors once again came to our shores and, of course, for this fourth anniversary we are again seeing that many, many of our friends are with us.

That represents, comrades, a tremendous problem for imperialism, because the imperialists need to be able to convince people out there that their lies about us are really truth. They need to be able to convince people out there that when they slander and tell lies about us that those people out there must believe it.

When you consider the United States, for example, Ronald Reagan has a major problem inside of his own country, and the problem that he has in his own country is that more and more Americans today are beginning to understand the importance of being opposed to all kinds of war, coming out, in particular, of the Vietnam experience. Many and many Americans today, in fact the vast majority of peace-loving Americans, are not willing to allow their children to go to El Salvador to fight any war for Ronald Reagan.

And therefore every week and month inside of the United States itself he has to face his own people coming out in the streets, demonstrating against war and in favor of peace. I remember very well exactly 9 months ago, on the 12th of June last year, in New York, over 1 million Americans came out into the streets marching, protesting, telling Ronald Reagan that if he wants to go and fight in El Salvador, that if he wants to build up more and more nuclear weapons, then he is going to have to go and fight himself, but they are not willing to go and fight for him and the small band of rich, powerful companies that really control him. That is a major obstacle that Reagan has.

And therefore one of the things that Reagan desperately needs to do is to be able to try to convince the American people that countries like Grenada are threats to the national security interests of the United States. That is why they have spend so much time in spreading all of this propaganda against us, propaganda that is so absurd that the very minute that anybody lands in our country, the very first thing you can hear them saying is that I heard all of these lies about this country, but exactly the opposite is what I am seeing.

My point is, comrades, they have spent a lot, a lot of time trying the propaganda. They have spent all of the last 4 years making up the lies, and they have discovered that this propaganda is not having any effect on our people and is not having a sufficiently deep effect on the people that they are trying to reach outside of Grenada. So when the propaganda didn't work on its own, they stepped up the economic aggression. They worked out a whole campaign to stop the Grenada international airport. And under this stop-the-airport campaign they spent millions of dollars and sent many, many of their diplomats all around Europe trying to see in what way they could stop us from achieving the completion of the international airport.

They got the World Bank and International Monetary Fund to also try to conspire against the revolution and to block funding to which we are entitled. They also tried to see if they could influence friends of Grenada and see if they could persuade them to stop giving the traditional forms of assistance to our country. The economic aggression was stepped up in a massive way, but then they also discovered that although they were spending so much time in trying to roll us back to economic destabilization that that also was not working.

So the propaganda had failed, and the economics had failed, and that is why today, comrades, they are now forced to move to the stage of resorting to the final measure, the measure of violent invasion of our small country. Every other trick and attempt that they have tried has not worked for them, and therefore now they have reached the last of the stages that we know that these people have used so often against so many other countries in the past.

There can be no doubt about it whatsoever, that at this very moment in time there are people in the CIA, and there are people in the Defense Department who are sitting down right now spreading their final plan and trying to see in what way they can ensure success for that plan. There can be no doubt about this at all, comrades, that at this time our revolution (?faces) a very grave threat from United States imperialism.

Every other popular revolution in the world is today facing a similar threat. It is no different for Mozambique. It is no different for Angola. It is no different for the people of Vietnam. It is no different for the people of Nicaragua. It is no different for the people of El Salvador. It is no different for the people of Cuba. Wherever around the world at this time that there exist either popular revolutions in power or where there exists a people that are fighting to free themselves, Ronald Reagan and his people are right now working out the best ways of trying to overthrow those processes, those revolutions.

Every single other revolutionary process in the world today has in fact already had attempts at violent destabilization used against them. Every single week the people of Mozambique are subjected to some form of violent invasion of their territory. Every single week the people of Angola are being subjected to racist attacks from South Africa across their borders. Our sisters and brothers of Nicaragua last year had over 100 armed incursions into their territory. Every other popular revolution in the world today is facing armed threats.

And that is why we knew, even before Ronald Reagan had provided us with the final evidence, that this was bound to come at some time or the other. And, comrades, what is important for us is to be able to make sure that in a situation where our country is attacked that we are able to stand up to defend our country. What is important for us is to make sure that at the same time as we prepare to defend our country we continue along the path of building our economy, we continue along the path of building our organs of people's power, we continue along the path of deepening our international relations, of developing more and more international cooperation, and showing greater and greater international solidarity with other peoples who are struggling to defend their rights and to achieve their independence or national liberation.

What is important for us, comrades, is even as we prepare to defend our country we make sure that our country continues to run, that our economy continues to function, that life continues to go on for our people. Because one of the things also that is always a part of the plan of these imperialists is to try to get you to concentrate exclusively on defense and forget all other areas. We need in Grenada today to be able to do those things at the same time: On the one hand build the economy, on the one hand continue to build our democratic structures, on the one hand continue to deepen our unity and raise our consciousness; but on the other hand, while we do all of that, we do have at this time to step up all measures of defense, all measures of national defense, so that if and when anyone lands in our country with aggressive intentions, with the aim of overthrowing this revolution, we must be certain that we have the capacity to be able to turn them back, to be able to deal with them in a forceful and final way and in that way to safeguard our revolution.
[applause]

During this period, it is very clear, comrades, that it is necessary for us to step up our vigilance. It is necessary for us to step up the guarding of our beaches, to be on the lookout for ships that might be thinking of coming here to attack the revolution, to be on the lookout for hostile planes. During this period, we have to be conscious of the fact that just within 100 to 200 miles of our country, there are over six battleships right now in the waters of Antigua, Barbados, Dominica and Trinidad and Tobago; six battleships, all of them within (73 days) of our country.

We are completely surrounded by hostile forces. When we passed through Barbados yesterday on the way to Grenada, we saw on the airport at Barbados a number of Harrier fighter jets -- Harrier fighter planes, parked on the Barbados airport tarmac. It is not just only ships; we know their planes are also within reach.

We have to step up our vigilance, therefore. During this period, we have to be conscious of the fact that one of the things that imperialism always does is to try to find local elements to help them to achieve their dirty ends; and therefore in this period also it is very, very necessary for us to be on the lookout for the activities of any local counterrevolutionaries and ensure that at a moment's notice we are able to put them under the [words indistinct]. That is also essential for this period. [applause]

During this period, too, comrades, it is very important, as over the past weeks we have opened several new projects and programs of the revolution several new buildings of the revolution, and therefore one of the things also that we have to be conscious of and must see as our duty is to step up our vigilance in the guarding of the property of the state, of the property of the people of our country. We have to step up our vigilance in this period in ensuring that we guard all of these new buildings and structures and projects and programs in this period. That is also a critical task.

But the most critical task for this period, the most critical task of all is to ensure that those comrades who were once in the militia but then began to get a little relaxed, a little lazy, in the confidence that the revolution was going forward so well that there was no need to continue with militia activities, there was no need to continue attending militia training, for those comrades who have dropped out of militia duty, this is the period to rejoin. This is the period to make absolutely sure that every member of the militia who has dropped out, out of overconfidence, that we pull them back into active militia duty in this period. It is a cardinal and fundamental task of the time.

And at the same time as we get those militia comrades who had dropped out to come back in, we also in this period have to redouble our efforts and energies to bring in new members into the militia. It is very, very important that as part of our preparation to defend our country, that we make certain that all those of our people who are able to do so learn to use the weapons that we have, because the revolution requires not only the building of our political consciousness, not only the building of our academic consciousness, not only the building of our economy, not only the building of our organs of popular power, but our revolution also requires of each and every one of us the need to be able to use our weapons so in any occasion of armed attack against the revolution, all of our people will be able to exercise their sacred duty and responsibility of coming out there fighting, with arms in hand, ready to repel any invader of our shores. That is the most fundamental, immediate task.

And that is why, comrades, I say to you tonight, as we celebrate these 4 years of popular power, as we move into the 5th year of our revolution, that it is extremely important to take this message quite seriously.

It is extremely important for all of us to understand the extent of the desperation of U.S. imperialism at this time, imperialism that has been getting blows on all fronts: Blows in Southeast Asia, blows in Southwest Asia, blows in the Middle East, blows in southern Africa, blows in Latin America and the Caribbean, wherever they have tried to put forward the approach of strategic consensus [as heard], wherever they have tried to achieve global domination, they have kept coming up against people who are willing to fight to defend what they are building. And that represents a really severe problem for imperialism. And that is why there is so much desperation. But we know that people who are desperate can often make a lucky lash, and what we have to make sure is no lucky lash is made on Grenada, that anybody who come down here to make a lash whether they think it is going to be a lucky lash or what other kind of lash, we have to make sure it is going to be an unlucky and final lash, and we will give them a good burial place right here in our land and our sea. [applause]

So, comrades, again [words indistinct] I want to thank the comrades of our revolutionary Armed Forces for coming out at such short notice. I want to say to all of you that we must continue to go forward in confidence, in closer unity, through putting out even more energy; we must continue to go forward to build out revolution. That is the beauty that we have. That is what we owe to all fighting people around the world.

ANTI-IMPERIALIST GROUP CHARGES U.S. 'CONSPIRACY'

PA150222 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 9 Mar 83 p 8

[Text] Managua (ANN) -- Yesterday the Anti-imperialist Tribunal of Our America (TANA) reported the existence of a conspiracy between the United States and the Netherlands to destroy the revolutionary government of Suriname led by Commander Daysi Bouterse. The charge was leveled by TANA Executive Secretary Freddy Balzan, who added that the two governments are training 500 mercenaries to invade that country next April, for which purpose \$12 million has been earmarked.

In an exclusive interview with ANN, Balzan appealed to all world democratic and progressive sectors and to labor and youth organizations to denounce this conspiracy, which has the objective of "taking that country back 3 centuries to a state of colonialism under the Netherlands."

Recently a delegation representing the 24 TANA chapters in Latin America visited Suriname and met with Commander Bouterse, who reaffirmed his complete support for the Nicaraguan process. During the same visit, TANA established its 25th chapter in Paramaribo, to be presided over by intellectual Harry Agerkop.

PLANNERS CONCERNED ABOUT ECONOMIC GROWTH

FL111758 Bridgetown CANA in English 0952 GMT 11 Mar 83

[By Rendon Eversley]

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, March 10, CANA -- Though not openly showing it, Suriname's economic planners are scratching their heads in wonderment about the country's ability to maintain real economic growth following the recent suspension of vital development aid from Holland.

The 10-year aid programme, valued at almost 100 million dollars (U.S.), was used to finance capital projects, including industrial and infrastructural development. It was Holland's gift to Suriname, its former South American colony, on its independence in 1975.

Dr Henk Goedschalk, government's acting planning director, says last December's decision by the Dutch Government -- to protest the alleged execution by the military here of 15 opponents -- has brought about no real weakening in the national economy.

But he admits there is concern in some quarters about a possible loss of confidence in the country, where industry has been laying off workers, prompting the military authorities to decree that in future redundancies must have the prior approval of the Labour Ministry.

Suriname has an unevenly developed economy, with a few capital intensive modern enterprises producing most of the country's out-put, exports dominated by foreign capital and a sluggish traditional sector.

Besides the two bauxite-producing companies, Suralco and Billiton there are also large agricultural enterprises: the state owned enterprise in Wageningen which is engaged in rice research, cultivation and production, and the wood processing. The per capita gross national product (GNP) is estimated at about U.S.: 2,860 dollars in 1982.

The capital intensive sector employs relatively few people and pays higher wages, in contrast with the national controlled and trade sectors, characterised by lower productivity. Despite the large-scale emigration in recent years and the rapid growth of the public sector, unemployment is still around 18 per cent of the labour force, according to official figures.

Suriname's overall balance of payments position has remained relatively strong in recent years despite the oil price increases and the recession in the developed countries. This was mainly the result of the imposition of a levy on bauxite production, which led to higher foreign exchange receipts, and a substantial increase in foreign aid. Official reserves at the end of 1982 were equivalent to approximately 5 months imports.

Unfortunately for Suriname, the cut off of Dutch aid coincides with the continuing downturn in the world economy, already evident in the local economy. Like other major world bauxite producers, Suriname too is feeling the squeeze from the current soft international market for the commodity. Bauxite, Alumina, and aluminium exports account for about 80 percent of the country's total revenue earnings through the government levy. According to official statistics, bauxite exports fell by a whopping 62.3 percent in 1982. This caused a 28.1 percent drop in government revenue, further aggravating a current account's deficit which soared by 57 million guilders to reach 100 million, compared with 43 million in 1981 (1 guilder; 55 cents U.S.) However, a 64 percent increase in aluminum exports and continued stability in the agriculture and manufacturing sectors helped the economy to end 1982 with an estimated 2.5 percent real growth.

Suriname's total bauxite exports in 1982 were 477,000 tonnes against 1.2 million the previous year. Aluminum exports however reached 60,000 tonnes compared with 33,000 in 1981. Though some amount of bauxite is processed locally to aluminum by the two companies operating here -- the American-owned Suriname Aluminum Company (Suralco) and Dutch-owned Billinton. Government would like to see this level increased to at least 20 percent, rather than having the raw ore sent to the United States.

"That is something we want to put an end to. We want to start by having at least 20 percent of our aluminum being processed here," Dr Goenschalk said. He envisages that in keeping with the government's policy of maximising the use of all available natural resources an aluminum industry could be off the ground in another two years. Even though the Suriname revolution is pledged to bringing key sectors of the economy into local hands, officials say nationalisation of bauxite is not on the cards for the time being.

Leader of the revolution, Lieutenant Colonel Daysi Bouterse, says such a step now would create a nightmare for the country, since new political and economic structures being built by the three-year-old, leftwing revolution were not yet fully developed. "We have learnt from other countries that nationalising is not always good to a country. Eighty percent of our income is from bauxite and we would put this country into a nightmare if we nationalise the industry while our process is not developed enough to support it," the army chief told CANA. "It's not just nationalising and then you're finished, because that's when the problems start. So depending on the strength of the process, we will act."

The militant C-47 Trade Union Federation which represents the majority of Suriname's bauxite workers, is all for nationalisation as long as it is done responsibly. "If we are making a revolution, then we have to build and create the conditions so that in the near future, we can go to the negotiating table with the two companies to talk about our shares," President Fred Berby said. "Maybe we don't have the conditions for nationalisation right now, but we have to work on it so that we can get under our control a piece of the power structure in this country in the interest of the Suriname people."

Suriname's total bauxite production in 1982 was down by 24.4 percent to 3.1 million tonnes from 4.1 million in 1981, figures supplied by the national planning bureau showed. As part of its programme to expand the Suriname economy, the revolutionary government is trying to develop the rather small industrial sector to produce items utilising as much as possible local materials and to create jobs.

In January 1981, government launched index -- the centre for industry and export -- and allocated to it the task of spearheading the country's industrial development thrust with the emphasis on exports. To date, officials report that agency has got 20 projects off the ground, with a total investment of 18.7 million guilders. Some 397 new jobs were also created. Suriname's industrial sector formerly produced goods such as soft drinks, margarine, and tobacco products mainly for the domestic market. The new projects launched by index in the past two years include fish processing, assembly of vehicles such as garage trucks, and the manufacture of brooms and brushes.

What the agency does is provide technical assistance to would-be investors to determine the feasibility of the named ventures and then okay them for funding by the state-owned National Development Bank. Index is currently working on another 28 projects, expected to create 578 new jobs, and carrying an investment value of 18.4 million guilders. Eleven projects are now before the bank awaiting approval for funding. These are valued at 7.9 million guilders and are expected to provide 240 new jobs.

Agriculture contributes about eight percent towards Suriname's gross domestic product (GDP). Main produce include rice, citrus, bananas and palm oil. The total area now under agricultural cultivation is put at 82,000 in 1980. Dr Goedschalk says there has been "very good expansion" in the state-owned rice industry in recent years and government wants to double the land area under cultivation within the next eight years. He could not say how many hectares were currently under cultivation. Rice exports, mainly to Europe, increased by 10 percent last year compared with 1981. Some 110,000 tonnes were sold against 93,200 in 1981, earning Suriname 69.9 million guilders in foreign exchange. Revenue from bananas was also up 13 percent in 1982 to 14.8 million guilders compared with 13 million in 1981. Some 380,000 tonnes of the fruit were exported against 365,000 the year before. Figures on the performance of the citrus sub-sector were not available. Officials also report that palm oil production, which started in 1975, has maintained "rapid growth" over the years, with production last year reaching 5,744 tonnes from 4,000 in 1981. Most of it is consumed locally.

According to the National Planning Bureau, government has projected an allocation of 2,688.5 million guilders for spending on capital projects during a 1983-1990 development programme.

The mining sector is down to receive 136.1 million guilders, Industry 309.4 million, housing 222.4 million, public services 336.3 million and agriculture 513.6 million, among others. These projections were made before the suspension of Dutch aid leaving hanging the question of how the programme will be funded. Foreign loans are already under consideration. Thanks to handsome post-independence Dutch aid, Suriname has a total external debt of 35 million guilders -- 19.5 million dollars (U.S.) -- which is one of the lowest on the economically-troubled South American continent. And in view of a Dutch Government guarantee which officials here say covers 30 million guilders of the figure, Suriname's external debt really amounts to five million guilders -- about 2.7 million dollars (U.S.).

For now, the policy is mainly to rely on our own strengths and to mobilise our own capital that is available. "We want to have more local capital invested in productivity and less in the consuming and trade areas," Dr Goedschalk told CANA in an interview. "Besides, we have no problem in getting loans because the country's rating is very high. Of course, we have to take care that we don't get a heavy loan problem and end up like many other countries."

COMMUNIQUE WITH LIBYA ISSUED IN TRIPOLI 15 MARCH

For Tripoli JANA reporting on the joint communique between Suriname and Libya, including the 15 March departure of Lieutenant Colonel Daysi Bouterse and delegation, see the North Africa section of the 16 March issue of the Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT.